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Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-153
Wednesday
8 August 1990

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-153 CONTENTS *8 August 1990*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

- Gulf Cooperation Council Meets in Jeddah 7 Aug ... 1
  - Condemns Iraqi Invasion *[SPA]* ... 1
  - Ministers Depart After Talks *[SPA]* ... 1
- Plans for November Arab Summit Said Unaffected *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 7 Aug]* ... 1
- Kuwait Events Imperil Arab Cooperation Council *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 7 Aug]* ... 2
- U.S. Ships Sent To Gulf; Jets in Saudi Arabia *[MENA]* ... 2
- Mubarak Receives Iraq's Ibrahim, Message 7 Aug ... 2
  - Explains View of Crisis *[MENA]* ... 2
  - Departs Alexandria After Visit *[MENA]* ... 2
- 'Arafat Meeting With King Fahd Reported *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ... 3
- Kuwaiti Sources on Failure To Convene Mini-Summit *[MENA]* ... 3
- Human Rights Group Deplores Military Threats *[MENA]* ... 3
- Agricultural Holding Company Formed 2 Aug *[MENA]* ... 3

Palestinian Affairs

- Statement Urges Rapid End to Gulf Crisis *[Amman AL-RA'Y 8 Aug]* ... 3
- Intifadah Call No. 60 Issued *[Algiers VOP]* ... 4
- 'Arafat Receives Philippine Ambassador *[Sanaa VOP]* ... 5

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

- Bendjedid Receives Phone Call From Kuwaiti Amir *[Algiers TV]* ... 6
  - Receives 2d Call From Al-Sabah *[APS]* ... 6
  - Receives Saddam Message *[Algiers TV]* ... 6

Egypt

- Mubarak Gives News Conference 8 Aug *[Cairo Radio]* ... 6
- Ghali on Peaceful Solution for Gulf Crisis *[Cairo Radio]* ... 11
- Kuwait Crown Prince Arrives in Egypt *[MENA]* ... 11
  - Holds Discussions With Mubarak *[MENA]* ... 11
  - Lauds Egypt's 'Courageous' Stand *[MENA]* ... 11
  - Comments on Talks, Departs *[MENA]* ... 12
- Spokesman Says Military Decision Up to Mubarak *[Belgrade TANJUG]* ... 12
- Mubarak Meets Secretary Cheney 7 Aug ... 13
  - Saddam Note Cited *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ... 13
  - Military Facilities Denied *[VOL]* ... 13
- Airport Prepares To Receive 75,000 Returnees *[MENA]* ... 13
- Palestinian Official Praises Mubarak's Role *[MENA]* ... 13
- More Iraqis To Return Home via Jordan *[MENA]* ... 13
- Papers on Foreign Intervention, Arab Silence *[MENA]* ... 14
- Nation Said Considering Joining Multinational Force *[AFP]* ... 14
- Mubarak Confers With Algerian President *[Cairo Radio]* ... 15

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Phones Arab Leaders on U.S. Moves [*JANA*] 15
Libyan, Belgian Oil Officials Meet 4 Aug [*JANA*] 15
Belgian Minister on 'Close Cooperation' [*JANA*] 15
Meeting Minutes Signed 5 Aug [*JANA*] 15

Mauritania

Taya Receives Iraqi Envoy, Wishes Iraq 'Victory' [*INA*] 15
Iraqi Minister Delivers Saddam Message [*Paris International*] 16
Citizens Offer To Fight for Iraq in Kuwait [*London International*] 16

Morocco

Minister Condemns Iraqi 'Question of Principle' [*MAP*] 16
Government Council Briefed on Gulf Situation [*Rabat TV*] 16

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Bahrain

Prime Minister Returns Home 7 Aug [*WAKH*] 17
Foreign Minister Heads for GCC Meeting [*AFP*] 17

Kuwait

New 'Government' Head Former Attache in Libya [*London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*] 17
'Provisional Government' Hails 'Era' of 'Republic' [*Provisional Kuwait Radio*] 17
RFL Cites Resistance Communique, Radio Data 17
Ambassador to London Holds News Conference [*London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 7 Aug*] 18
Opposition Statement Accepts 'New Reality' [*AL-RA'Y 8 Aug*] 18
'Provisional Government' Declares Republic [*Baghdad Radio*] 19
Iraq To Allow Westerners To Leave Via Jordan [*Helsinki Radio*] 19
UK Citizens Traced; Law, Order Deteriorating [*London PRESS ASSOCIATION*] 19
'Entire' Leadership Reportedly in Saudi Arabia [*MENA*] 20
Minister of State Speaks on 'Occupation' [*Paris Radio Monte Carlo*] 20
Kuwaiti Dinar Decreed Equivalent to Iraqi Dinar [*Provisional Free Kuwait Radio*] 21

Saudi Arabia

Defense Minister Meets U.S. Defense Secretary [*Riyadh Radio*] 21
Oil Company Source Says Iraqi Pipeline Shut [*AFP*] 22
Tehran Claims Iraqi Forces Occupy Saudi Port [*Tehran International*] 22
U.S., British Nationals Leaving Saudi Cities [*AFP*] 22
King Fahd Receives Message From Omani Sultan [*Riyadh TV*] 22
Saudi Journalist on Situation in Kuwait [*Cairo Radio*] 22

Qatar

Iran's Velayati Meets With Heir Apparent [*Manama WAKH*] 23
Delivers Message to Amir [*Tehran Radio*] 23
Comments on Developments [*Tehran Radio*] 24
Press Urges Iraqi Withdrawal From Kuwait [*WAKH*] 24

United Arab Emirates

President Receives Thatcher, Gorbachev Messages [*WAKH*] 24

Yemen

- President Calls Bush, Mitterrand on Crisis *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
- Salih, Al-Bid Return to Sanaa From Arab Tour *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
- Salih Chairs Meeting on Gulf Crisis *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
- Salih in Hospital for 'Medical Checkup' *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
- Iraqi Envoy Calls on Salih, Gives Message *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
- Council Urges Iraqi Withdrawal, Arab Solution *[Sanaa Radio]* 25

IRAQ

- 'Free Kuwait' Appeals to 'Return to the Homeland' *[Baghdad Radio]* 26
- Gulf Sources Say Oil Exports Halted *[Cairo Radio]* 26
- Troops Block Jordan-Bound Foreigners 8 Aug *[AFP]* 26
- French Citizens Unable To Leave Baghdad Hotel *[Paris Radio]* 27
- Ambassador in Greece Denies Hostages Taken *[Athens Radio]* 27
- British Short-Term Visa Holders Can Leave *[London PRESS ASSOCIATION]* 27
- Embassy Says Troops Kept 'Strict Discipline' *[INA]* 27
- Ibrahim Discusses 'Brotherly' Ties With Egypt *[INA]* 28
- 'Ala' 'Ali Meets With Government Officials 28
  - 'Izzat Ibrahim *[INA]* 28
  - Saddam Husayn *[INA]* 28
- Ramadan Receives Turkish Ambassador in Baghdad *[INA]* 28
- Diplomats in Cairo Speculate on 'Aziz 'Absence' *[Belgrade TANJUG]* 28
- Saddam Husayn Issues 'Victory' Day Message *[Baghdad Radio]* 29
- Baghdad Mandates PLO Mediation in Kuwait Crisis *[Hamburg DPA]* 31
- Commentary Views Kuwaiti 'Interim Government' *[Baghdad International]* 31
- Paper Links Al-Sabah, 'Zionist-American Design' *[INA]* 31
- Ediorial Attacks 'Ruthless' Imperialist Campaign *[INA]* 32

ISRAEL

- Shamir Says U.S. Policy in Gulf Arouses 'Trust' *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 34
- Cabinet Awaits Results of U.S. Moves in Gulf *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 34
- U.S. Troops in Saudi Arabia Termed 'Success' *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 8 Aug]* 34
- Editorial Calls For Arab Solidarity on Invasion *[AL-QUDS 5 Aug]* 35
  - Rejects Foreign Intervention *[AL-QUDS 6 Aug]* 35
- Paper Views PLO's Refusal to Condemn Iraq *[AL-FAJR 6 Aug]* 36
- Saddam Mode Seen as Overpowering Moderation *['AL HAMISHMAR 7 Aug]* 36
- Report Says Iran Will Not Exploit Gulf Crisis *[HA'ARETZ 8 Aug]* 37
- Iraqi Officers Said To Visit Jordan Border *['AL HAMISHMAR 8 Aug]* 38
- Officials, Groups React to Jerusalem Murders 38
  - Shamir Issues Communique *[Jerusalem Radio]* 38
  - Sharon Urges Deporting Palestinians *[Jerusalem Radio]* 38
  - Knesset Holds Debate *[Jerusalem Radio]* 39
  - Meridor Comments *[Jerusalem Radio]* 39
  - Palestinians Blame Oppression *[Jerusalem Radio]* 39
  - Israeli Arabs Express 'Outrage' *[THE JERUSALEM POST 7 Aug]* 39
  - Arabs Injured in Funeral Rioting *[Jerusalem Radio]* 40
  - 'Dozens' Hurt *[HADASHOT 8 Aug]* 40
  - Editorial Condemns Murder 40
- AL-QUDS Details Israeli-Palestinian Document *[3 Aug]* 41
  - Document Not Signed *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
  - Labor MK's Criticized *[THE JERUSALEM POST 7 Aug]* 41
- Cabinet Passes Immigration Absorption Plan *[Jerusalem Radio]* 42

JORDAN

- Badran Returns From 'Successful' Visit to Syria *[Amman TV]* 43
- Overland Entry of Foreigners Into Jordan Eased *[WAKH]* 43
- Plane From Baghdad Arrives With Foreigners *[Paris Radio]* 43

- Provisional Kuwaiti Government Not Recognized *[Amman Radio]* 44
- King Receives Saudi Envoy, King Fahd's Message *[Amman Radio]* 44
- Armed Arab Help To Be Sought If Israel Attacks *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 44
- Editorial Chides Arabs for Siding With Enemies *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 7 Aug]* 44
- 30-40,000 Egyptian Workers Said Crossing Jordan *[MENA]* 45
- Drop in Value of Gulf Currencies Discussed *[AL-RA'Y 7 Aug]* 45

LEBANON

- Captors To Release Swiss Hostages Within 24 Hours *[AFP]* 47
- U.S. Military Moves Suggest War 'Inevitable' *[VOL]* 47
- Radio Talk Condemns U.S. Actions in Gulf *[Voice of the People]* 47
- Hizballah Sets Four Conditions for Army's Entry *[RFL]* 47

SYRIA

- Lebanese Justice Minister Rizq Arrives 48
  - Praises Ties *[Damascus Radio]* 48
  - Meets With Information Minister *[Damascus Radio]* 48
  - Received by Al-Asad *[Damascus Radio]* 48
- Al-Shar' on Euphrates Waters, Al-Ta'if Agreement *[Jeddah 'UKAZ 2 Aug]* 48
- AL-BA'TH Editorials Discuss Gulf Crisis 49
  - 7 Aug *[Damascus Radio]* 49
- Only Nation's Enemies Benefit From Arab Disputes 49
  - 6 Aug *[Damascus Radio]* 49
  - 5 Aug *[Damascus Radio]* 50
- Commentary Deplores Arab 'Subsidiary Conflicts' *[Damascus Radio]* 50

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

- Government Discusses Political Changes in Pakistan *[Kabul Radio]* 51
- Kabul Counts on Refugees To Salvage Economy *[AFP]* 51
- Spokesman Comments on Mideast Situation *[Kabul Radio]* 51
- Five Afghan Diplomats Defect in Two Months *[AFP]* 52
- Mujahidin Regime Denounces Iraqi Invasion *[Kabul Radio]* 52
- Islamic Unity Party To Continue Struggle *[Tehran Radio]* 52
- Islamic Unity Party Opens Tehran Office *[IRNA]* 52
- Missile Attack on Kabul Yields 14 Dead, 10 Hurt *[Kabul Radio]* 52

Bangladesh

- Iraq Asked To Free Nationals Arrested in Kuwait *[Dhaka Radio]* 53
- Australian Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit *[Dhaka Radio]* 53

India

- Gujral Says Pakistan Warned on Leader Statements *[Delhi Radio]* 53
- Pakistan's Raising of Kashmir Issue Protested *[Delhi Radio]* 53
- Reaction Continues to Bhutto Government Dismissal 53
  - Political Parties Criticize *[AFP]* 53
  - CPI-M Politburo Criticizes *[Delhi Radio]* 54
  - Gujral Comments *[Delhi Radio]* 54
  - Government To Make Statement *[Delhi Radio]* 54
  - Gujral Gives Statement 8 Aug *[Delhi Radio]* 54
- Punjab Governor Blames Pakistan for Trouble *[Delhi Radio]* 54
- Evacuation of Nationals in Liberia Considered *[Delhi Radio]* 55
- Gujral Proposes South Asian Common Market *[Delhi Radio]* 55
- Tamil Nadu Chief Opposes Sri Lankan Visit *[Delhi Radio]* 55
- Sri Lankan Navy Seizes Indian Trawlers, Crew *[Delhi Radio]* 55

Kashmir Militant Party 'Top Leadership' Arrested *[Delhi Radio]* ... 55
Kashmir Governor Says 150 Militants Killed *[Delhi Radio]* ... 55

Iran

President on 'Innocence' of Republic *[IRNA]* ... 56
Commentaries Views Implications of Iraqi Invasion ... 56
  'Great Powers' Loot Third World *[Tehran International]* ... 56
  Region 'In Grave Danger' *[Tehran Radio]* ... 57
Mo'ayeri Returns After Ankara Mission 7 Aug *[Tehran Radio]* ... 57
  Reportage on Mo'ayeri Visit *[cross-reference]* ... 57
Foreign Ministry Denounces Sri Lankan Violence *[IRNA]* ... 57
Planning Chief Advocates Foreign Economic Aid *[Tehran Radio]* ... 57

Nepal & Bhutan

India's Gujral on PRC Arms Sales, Pakistan *[AFP]* ... 58

Pakistan

President Khan Addresses Nation 6 Aug *[THE PAKISTAN TIMES 7 Aug]* ... 58
Secretary-Level Talks With India To Continue *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 65
Caretaker Minister in Punjab Lists Priorities *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 65
President Appoints New Attorney General *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 65
Portfolios of New Cabinet Members Announced *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 65
Jatoi Chairs Federal Cabinet Meeting *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 65
New Prime Minister Meets With PPP's Khalid *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 65
  Meets Workers, Says No Revenge *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 65
Bhutto Reportedly Banned From Leaving Country *[AFP]* ... 65
Bhutto Party Ready for Elections, Warns on Delay ... 66
  Meets, Issues Statement *[AFP]* ... 66
  Bhutto Leaves Islamabad for Karachi *[Delhi Radio]* ... 66
Zia's Son Calls for Bhutto Corruption Probe *[AFP]* ... 66
Paper Comments On Dismissal of Bhutto Government *[THE PAKISTAN TIMES 7 Aug]* ... 67
Further Reportage on Australian Minister Visit ... 68
  Discusses Cooperation, Aircraft *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 68
  Meets With President Khan *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 68
  Shows 'Understanding' on Kashmir *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 68
  Discusses Kashmir, Trade *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 68
  Unsure on Aid Request *[Melbourne International]* ... 68
Commentary Hails ICO Resolution on Kashmir *[Islamabad Radio]* ... 69

Sri Lanka

Muslims Reportedly Kill 47 Tamils in Amparai *[Delhi Radio]* ... 69

Inter-Arab Affairs

Gulf Cooperation Council Meets in Jeddah 7 Aug

Condemns Iraqi Invasion

LD0708220190 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2113 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Jeddah, 7 Aug (SPA)—The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] Ministerial Council held its 12th extraordinary session today, Tuesday 7 August 1990, in Jeddah under the chairmanship of His Excellency Yusuf Bin-al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs, in the presence of their excellencies Rashid 'Abdallah 'Ali al-Nu'aymi, minister of state for foreign affairs in the UAE; Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahrain's foreign minister; His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Mubarak Bin 'Ali al-Khatir, Qatar's foreign minister; Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Kuwait, in order to follow up the dangerous situation resulting from Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, and the flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of a GCC, Arab League, and UN member which represents a naked violation of all international charters and customs, and of Arab, Islamic, and international laws.

The Council reaffirmed its statement issued at its 11th extraordinary session which was held in Cairo on 3 August 1990, and the Arab League resolution at its extraordinary session held in Cairo on 2 August, and the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] statement, and the UN resolutions condemning the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait calling for the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and their return to their positions prior to 1 August 1990, and adherence to Arab, Islamic, and international charters, in particular their stipulation for the settlement of conflicts by peaceful means, noninterference in internal affairs of any state, and respect for the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of every state, and abstention by member states from using force or resorting to the threat of using force against the integrity and political independence of any one of them.

The Council also reported its support for Kuwait and for legitimacy in it, and expressed its pride in the steadfastness of the fraternal Kuwaiti people in the face of the sinful aggression, and saluted the authenticity of this people which expresses the depth of its national feelings and its cohesion under the leadership of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, and his legitimate government.

The Council calls on Iraq to withdraw its forces immediately in accordance with the resolutions of the Arab League, the ICO statement, and the UN resolutions. The Council confirms its rejection of this aggression and of any of its consequences and its nonrecognition of its consequences.

In the light of the dangerous situation created by Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, the Council studied the best means by which to deal with the situation and to present recommendations to the Supreme Soviet Council.

Issued in Jeddah on 7 August 1990

Ministers Depart After Talks

LD0808015990 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2310 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 7 Aug (SPA)—His Highness Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwait deputy prime minister and foreign minister, His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahrain foreign minister, and His Excellency Rashid 'Abdallah 'Ali al-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Jeddah this evening after taking part today in the GCC Ministerial Council meeting in Jeddah. They were seen off at King Khalid International airport by GCC [Group Cooperation Council] Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'aqub Bisharah, and the director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador 'Abd-al-Rahman Muhammad al-Nuwaysir.

Qatar Foreign Minister Mubarak 'Ali al-Khatir also left Jeddah this evening. [passage omitted]

Plans for November Arab Summit Said Unaffected

PM0808091990 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Aug 90 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Despite Kuwait Events, Ordinary Arab Summit To Be Held as Planned; No Amendments to League Charter"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Informed diplomatic sources in Cairo have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that so far there has been no significant change in the date set for the next Arab summit conference, scheduled to be held in Cairo on 24 November.

A responsible source has told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Egypt is still very hopeful that the new Iraq-Kuwait dispute, difficult as it is, could be contained before the summit. Egypt, he said, hopes the next summit would be held under the "Arab solidarity and security" slogan, emphasizing the need for Arab unity of ranks.

Egypt is expected to submit more than one new working paper on future challenges to the Arab world, particularly in connection with Arab differences. It will also submit a plan on Arab solidarity, rules for resolving disputes under the Arab League charter, future moves on the Palestinian question, and international changes and their effects on the Arab region.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources have confirmed that the Arab League's foreign ministers conference will be held as scheduled in Tunis in September without delay to approve the final version of the proposed final draft of Arab League Charter amendments, the first since the league was formed in 1945.

The sources added that the recent developments would not be a cause for any additional amendments to the proposals already studied by the experts committee. They pointed out that the current charter regulations and the amendments proposed before the recent developments would be sufficient to tackle these developments.

The sources said the current Arab League Charter will remain as it is and the amendments which will be submitted to the Cairo summit conference will be in the form of three or four appendixes.

The experts committee will submit the amendments in their final form to the ministerial committee emanating from the Arab League before submitting them to the Arab foreign ministers conference and later to the Arab summit for approval.

Kuwait Events Imperil Arab Cooperation Council

PM0808092790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Aug 90 p4

[Unattributed report: "Future Of Arab Cooperation Council Discussed in Wake of Iraqi Forces' Entry Into Kuwait"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from Cairo sources that the intensive contacts held by King Husayn of Jordan and Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih with President Husni Mubarak after the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait included discussion of the future of the four-state Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] and ways of averting repercussions which could jeopardize the council as a result of the different positions of the three states on the Iraqi aggression.

The sources said that the current Gulf developments would have negative effects on the ACC's work in the coming months and that the timetable drawn up for the meetings of ACC bodies in the next four months would not be observed, especially the meeting of the Higher Committee of the four leaders scheduled to be held on 22 October in Baghdad, the Ministerial Committee scheduled to meet on 15 September in Jordan, and the second session of the Parliamentary Committee scheduled to be held early September in Amman. The sources pointed out that Egypt is expected to implement the bilateral cooperation agreements it has with Jordan and Yemen and to reconsider the quadripartite cooperation agreements concluded by the three states and Iraq and approved by the ACC leaders at the three summits held in Alexandria, Sanaa, and Amman.

There were reports in Egypt yesterday that Egypt was expected to withdraw from the ACC in protest against the Iraqi position. Furthermore, it has been decided to stop transmission of the illustrated Baghdad broadcast carried weekly by the Egyptian television in accordance with the agreement concluded between Egypt and the ACC states, as a protest against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

President Husni Mubarak has instructed Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Interior Minister Major General Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Musa, and Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister Fu'ad Sultan to provide all necessary facilities to Kuwaitis living in Cairo, such as extension of residence permits to those living in Egypt, and such other facilities as hotel accomodations and exchange of Kuwaiti currency, until the situation stabilizes and they return to their countries.

As part of the facilities, the Egyptian Doctors Association has decided to offer free medicial services and treatment to Kuwaitis.

U.S. Ships Sent To Gulf; Jets in Saudi Arabia

NC0808094890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Ismailia, 8 Aug (MENA)—The U.S. aircraft carrier Eisenhower sailed through the Suez Canal today accompanied by five military vessels. They sailed from the Mediterranean en route to the Gulf.

[In a Dhahran-datelined item, Paris AFP in English at 0929 GMT on 8 August reports, "Several U.S. warplanes landed in this eastern Saudi province Wednesday, witnesses said.

["The United States is sending warplanes and troops to help protect Saudi Arabia against a possible Iraqi invasion."]

Mubarak Receives Iraq's Ibrahim, Message 7 Aug

Explains View of Crisis

NC0708132490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1317 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—Today President Mubarak received 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council.

The Iraqi official had arrived here earlier carrying a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on the latest developments in the Gulf region. The message also explains Iraq's view of the crisis that erupted recently after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwaiti territories.

The meeting falls within the framework of President Mubarak's intensive political activity as he has already held a series of important meetings with senior officials from various countries concerned with the Gulf crisis.

Departs Alexandria After Visit

NC0708134990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, left Alexandria to go back to Baghdad this afternoon after a brief visit. While here, the Iraqi official conveyed a message to President Mubarak from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with the latest developments in the region.

'Arafat Meeting With King Fahd Reported

JN0708135590 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

['Abdallah al-Shihri dispatch from Riyadh]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat left here at dawn today after talks with King Fahd and Prince 'Abdallah. The results of the discussions were not disclosed. Some observers believe that Palestinian efforts have failed, especially in light of the Gulf countries' dissatisfaction with the Palestinian position regarding the Iraqi aggression on Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Kuwaiti Sources on Failure To Convene Mini-Summit

NC0608143090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Tunis, 6 Aug (MENA)—Official Kuwaiti sources in Tunis gave reasons why the Arab mini-summit that was scheduled to convene in Jeddah after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait was not convened. In a statement to MENA, these sources said that the amir of Kuwait refused to attend this summit, saying that he could not meet with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn while his army occupies Kuwait. King Husayn had earlier declared that the Arab League Council's resolution that condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait obstructed the convening of the mini-summit.

Human Rights Group Deplores Military Threats

NC0608154190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—The Arab Organization for Human Rights has expressed deep concern over the moves by some world powers to internationalize the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis through military intervention in the region as represented by the dispatch of some military vessels to the Gulf area and by the statements of their civilian and military leaders on the use of the military option to settle the problem.

In a statement issued today, the organization said it adds its voice to the unanimous Arab and international call for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwaiti territory and calls for this withdrawal to be a real one and not merely the replacement of regular forces with other militias which will carry out the same mission and for letting the Kuwaiti people determine their own fate.

The statement added that the organization has followed with deep concern the reports of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the gross violations of collective and individual rights, and the violations that could still ensue as represented by the shedding of blood and the placing of the state's authority in the hands of an unknown government.

The organization expressed its belief that only the Arab people of Kuwait have the right to effect internal changes free from foreign interference.

Agricultural Holding Company Formed 2 Aug

NC0308111290 Cairo MENA in English 2224 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, Aug 2 (MENA)—The ministers of agriculture in Egypt, Syria, Libya and Sudan have decided to establish a holding company for agricultural production among the four countries with 200 million dollars capital to be based in Cairo.

The company's establishment comes at the directives for the leaders of the four countries at their meeting in Libya in March.

The company aims at achieving economic and social integration among those countries.

The ministers have agreed to convene periodically in the four countries to follow agricultural integration achievements and coordination among the 4 countries.

Palestinian Affairs

Statement Urges Rapid End to Gulf Crisis

JN0808091490 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Aug p 22

[Text] Tunis (PETRA)—The PLO has stressed the need to reach an urgent and immediate Arab solution to the Arabian Gulf crisis.

PLO Executive Committee Member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh has said that, due to the escalating tension in the Arabian Gulf and the increased likelihood of foreign interference, it is important to reach a rapid and immediate Arab solution to the crisis that would prevent the spread of the crisis and the interference of foreign sides.

In a news statement here yesterday, 'Abd-Rabbuh added that this solution must be based on maintaining the Arab states' independence and sovereignty and protecting Arab oil resources from direct hegemony by certain international sides.

'Abd-Rabbuh warned that relying on foreign intervention and inviting it will only divide the Arabs among themselves, prolong the crisis, and use it to restore and concentrate a foreign presence in the region. Moreover, prolonging the crisis will lead to falling into the U.S.-Israeli trap that seeks to grab any opportunity to attack Arab military power, control oil resources, and subdue the region and its peoples.

'Abd-Rabbuh said that solving the crisis according to the aforementioned principles and speed would prevent Israel from benefiting from the crisis to crush the intifadah while international attention is focused on the Gulf.

Moreover, solving the crisis will close the door to all possible direct Israeli military interference that has been mentioned by Israel and Western circles.

'Abd-Rabbuh added that solving the crisis rapidly and through Arab mediation will turn attention again to the tension and the conflict in the region; namely, the conflict with the Israeli occupation. The biggest service to the Palestinian intifadah would be a quick and immediate end to the crisis that will prevent foreign interference forces from tampering with and expanding this crisis. The PLO Executive Committee member said that the U.S. and Western military build up and the clear Israeli military preparation to join these fleets, must prompt us to take rapid action and end this crisis immediately in a manner that ensures the sovereignty and independence of all Arab states and safeguards Arab resources.

Intifadah Call No. 60 Issued

LD0208084290 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Call no. 60 of the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah; read by announcer; date, place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate, call, call, call, no voice can be higher than that of the intifadah, and no voice can be higher than that of the people of Palestine, the people of the PLO. Call no. 60 issued by the PLO, the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah, al-Aqsa call: [passage omitted]

The brave uprising and its repercussions have contributed to the development of the European stance toward the legitimate rights of our people and its just struggle. In continuation of the American-Israeli alliance policy and the total bias of the American Administration toward this enity, and as an (?embodiment) of the American hostility, it [the United States] has rewarded the new racist government with the suspension of dialogue with the PLO. [words indistinct] on the eve of he summit conference in Baghdad [words indistinct].

Masses of the steadfast intifadah, strugglers within the ranks of workers, peasants, women, students, merchants and professionals! Steadfast ones behind the bars in the fascist detention camps! The Unified Leadership presses upon you the necessity of working toward the deepening of cooperation and unity and toward intensified efforts and energies under the flag of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and its fighting arm, the Unified National Leadership in the state of occupied Palestine. They affirm that only with its and our unity can we achieve victory. Thus, let us rise above our disputes and put the interests of our people above all else, allowing it to become the sole gauge and yardstick of our work and activities. Let us all chant with one voice: Unity, unity until victory; unity, unity until victory. [passage omitted]

In order for our intifadah to progress to a more advanced phase, it is necessary to further deepen democracy among our people. So, let there be more democracy in order to preserve the popular nature of the intifadah. This means a broader participation and a more efficient engaging and investment of energies. This let us work for a broader participation in national decision making with the aim of deepening and consolidating popular unity through the intifadah's various committees and professional councils, so that we can give the masses the opportunity to contribute toward the development of the intifadah and to give it momentum toward (?full) independence.

Masses of the PLO, masses of the Unified National Leadership, while the Unified National Leadership hails your struggling spirits and your decisive commitments to its resolutions and recommendations, it once again reaffirms the following:

Writing on the walls. This has proven an effective and prominent means in political mobilization and agitation and should be continued; suggestions for slogans, such as "Unity, unity until victory"; "Long live the PLO"; "No to the Shamir-Mubarak-Baker Plan"; "Yes and a million yeses to an independent Palestinian state."

Fourth, hand in hand and together in facing the intensive Jewish emigration to our homeland.

Second, [numbering as heard] boycotting the Israeli agricultural product: We confirm our past resolutions on the necessity to face those who sell Israeli products in the markets of our state. The Unified National Leadership affirms that some traders, who sell Israeli products, are by this action contributing to the destruction of one of the most important pillars of our sate through inundating the market with Israeli products, and by trading these they are stealing the sweat and the daily bread of our farmers. On this basis, the Unified National Leadership will deal with this issue with all determination. The Unified National Leadership reaffirms the national stances and resolutions related to taxes and fines. With regard to the boycott of American products, the Unified National Leadership gives a time of respite to the traders who are concerned with importing and trading these products until the end of next September. [passage omitted]

Third, joint marches: The Unified National Leadership calls on all the national active elements in the various places to set up field coordination committees to coordinate struggle activities and to commit themselves to guiding the joint marches, whether during the national public occasions or those privately organized by the various groups. [passage omitted]

Ninth, the Unified National Leadership will announce, in a special communique to be issued soon, the setting up of the higher judicial committee which will define the legal procedures followed in the state of Palestine, including those concerning investigations. Until then, the Unified National Leadership calls for the following of peaceful guidelines and methods during interrogations and for not adopting the results of interrogations in which severe torture takes place and which leads to killing and on national parties not to interrogate elements from other national parties. It is not reasonable that one of us is killed following a beating during interrogation, whereas we are the ones who are victims of such measures by the occupation authorities.

Ten: Some elements in the north in particular are commiting excesses against merchants [words indistinct] the collection of donations and (?taxes). The Unified National Leadership condemns and rejects all these excesses, and asks our striking forces to confront them and put an end to them.

O masses of our people! The Unified National Leadership calls on you to implement the following national activities: General strikes: A general strike on 9 August on the occasion of the intifadah entering the eighth month of the third year of the intifadah; on 21 August a general strike on the occasion of the attempt to burn down the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and it shall be a distinguished day of struggle; on 30 August, a general strike to protest the aggressive American attitude and the attempt at blackmailing our people; 9-15 August, a period of distinguished escalation on the anniversary of the Tal al-Z'atar massacre on 12 August. This period will be marked by mass national processions and the intensification of clashes and confrontation against the Zionist soldiers and the hords of settlers, at which Palestinian flags shall be hoisted. The period 15-19 August shall be days of social complementarity, national exchange of visits with special interest shown in the families of the martyrs, the injured and the detainees; 20 August: in commemoration of the monthly anniversary of the 'Uyun Qarah massacre we urge the masses of our people on this day, which coincides with the passing of four months since this massacre, to halt traffic for ten minutes from 1000 [local time] and lights in all homes shall be switched off for half an hour at 2100 of the same day; during the period 22-27 August, a mass national unified procession shall be organized in all the towns and camps of the state of Palestine in confirmation of the unity of our people and our attachment to our legitimate rights. Shops shall open their doors on 29 August until (?1800).

Long live the PLO, sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people! Glory to the martyrs, honor to the prisoners, and we shall definitely triumph. The Unified National Leadership of the intifadah, the PLO, the state of Palestine!

'Arafat Receives Philippine Ambassador

JN3107184690 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Jul 90

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday received the credentials of (Mian Doga Liroga) as the Philippines' ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the state of Palestine. His excellency the Philippine ambassador conveyed to President Abu-'Ammar the greetings of Philippine President Corazon Aquino and her wishes that the Palestinian people will achieve their goals.

The ambassador also reiterated that the Philippines favored the UN resolutions and all principles constituting a framework for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He also stressed that his country is eager to promote relations between the state of Palestine and the Philippines.

Brother Abu-'Ammar repeated the thanks of the Palestinian people and the PLO to the Philippine people, government, and President Corazon Aquino for their support for the legitimate national rights of our people.

Algeria

Bendjedid Receives Phone Call From Kuwaiti Amir

LD0608193390 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid yesterday evening received a telephone call from Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Receives 2d Call From Al-Sabah

LD0708111690 Algiers APS in English 1011 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Algiers, 7 August (APS)—President Chadli Bendjedid received a telephone call last night from emir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Receives Saddam Message

LD0708200690 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Iraqi minister of transport and communications, envoy of President Saddam Husayn to the president of the republic, Chadli Bendjedid, handed the president a message from the Iraqi president. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali and by Mohamed Sahnoun, advisor on diplomatic affairs to the president.

Egypt

Mubarak Gives News Conference 8 Aug

NC0808135290 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1227 GMT 8 Aug 90

[News conference by President Husni Mubarak at the Presidential Office in Heliopolis, Cairo—*live*]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Brothers: The Arab countries and, indeed, the Arab nation are passing through difficult and complicated circumstances. I have accustomed you in all situations to hearing me speak to you with total frankness about any domestic or external event that touches Egypt or affects pan-Arab security. In this I am motivated by the desire to safeguard the Arab nation's vital interests and to provide the necessary conditions to defend its rights and sanctities and enable it to confront the challenges that obstruct its progress in this era, which is replete with achievements and dangers at the same time.

Today I find myself bound to present to you my views about a situation that forebodes grave, perhaps destructive, dangers. These dangers will cause difficulties for all the peoples of the Arab nation without exception. These dangers have regional and international implications, the likes of which we have not seen before. For this reason we must all view them with the great attention and caution that they deserve. We must all together be aware of the terrible consequences that could result should they persist.

I am telling you the story of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute with total frankness, without being biased toward this or that side. It must not be understood that I am taking Kuwait's side against Iraq. It must also not be alleged that Kuwait is assisting Egypt and that for this reason Egypt is adopting a stand supporting Kuwait. I am saying this is absolutely untrue. There is no help from Kuwait. Nevertheless, it is a matter of principle. Egypt has principles and stands, and these stands can never be bought with money because history will record them for the coming generations.

The problem began as a border dispute. Iraq and Kuwait have had a border dispute for a long time. I believe most of you know this dispute's history from the days, or before the days, of 'Abd-al-Karim Qasim and the days of President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir, and you know the measures that were taken in that regard.

The present problem started as a border problem, particularly after the end of the Iraq-Iran war. During this period also, the question of settling differences on debts that Iraq owed to Kuwait as a result of the Iraq-Iran war cropped up as well. Another problem that Iraq raised was of the theft of petroleum from a territory Iraq considers its own. I say that Kuwait should have acted to find a solution to the border problem. Kuwait admitted once to the theft of the petroleum.

On 18 July Iraq accused Kuwait of stealing petroleum and of establishing military bases in Iraqi territory. The Iraqis said that the Kuwaitis were causing a glut by exceeding their production quota and consequently producing a drop in prices. This, the Iraqis claimed, is undermining Iraqi national security and the like.

Egypt considered this issue to be very serious. We feared that the situation between two fraternal and neighboring Arab states might worsen. We issued a statement on 19 July. We first thought that this was one of the differences in which we could get involved and calm the situation. In our 19 July statement, we said: Please calm down. Let us settle the differences and disputes through a fraternal Arab dialogue. We are prepared to cooperate with all states to reach a result satisfactory to both parties.

After this, we heard news agencies reporting that the forces were moving from Iraq southward toward Kuwait. Naturally, Egypt has a pioneering and leading role whether we and others like it or not. Egypt has its history, culture, and the ability to act. The fact is that I acted.

Iraq is a friendly state. I am tied to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn by a strong brotherly bond. We have common views on many problems. By virtue of the relationship with them, I decided to go to Iraq, then to Kuwait, and then to meet our brother the custodian of the two holy mosques in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

which is a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council and a state that carries weight in the region.

How did this problem arise? After long discussions with brother President Saddam Husayn, I posed a direct question. I asked him: Do you have troops heading southward toward Kuwait and do you have any troops on the Kuwaiti border? The truth is that he answered: No, these are the Presidential Guard forces, which are on a normal routine move with forces stationed there. I asked: Far from the border? He answered: They are 70 or 80 km away from the border. I then asked: Well, is there any intention to attack? He answered me: No, I am content. This is my stand and there is no intention to attack Kuwait. I said: Good, let us then think about a way to start a dialogue between the two parties. Let us, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and peace-loving states participate in drawing views close and achieve a compromise between the two countries in order not to complicate the issue, which could reach bounds of which we do not approve or accept.

I went to Kuwait and told the officials there very frankly: The situation is difficult and you must act toward a solution. After long discussions I agreed with President Saddam Husayn that a session of discussions be held in Baghdad first and be followed by a second session in Kuwait. This is bearing in mind that President Husayn had refused a request from other heads of state that the dialogue should take place anywhere other than Baghdad. The fact is that the man agreed with me. We agreed on this. I then made another request. I asked him that the first session be held in a place other than Kuwait or Iraq to prepare the ground psychologically.

We agreed to hold a meeting between the two countries in Jeddah at the level of the Kuwaiti crown prince and of the vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council. After long discussions, President Saddam Husayn—and that was on Tuesday—told me: I hope that the meeting will be held as soon as possible, by Saturday or Sunday. I agreed with Kuwait. I told our brothers in Kuwait: It is a question of borders and you should have tried to solve it. It is a question of financial compensation, and you should sort it out. I am telling you very frankly—and Iraq has not said this to me quite frankly—but I am telling you and confronting you quite frankly with what I have felt from the entire events I have been observing, even during the stage that preceded the ultimatum.

On the same day I went to see the custodian of the two holy mosques. I agreed with him. I remember that I spent the whole night before traveling in Burj al-'Arab. I left Burj al-'Arab for Cairo at 0400, Monday. I met an envoy here in Cairo at 0600. Then I traveled to Baghdad, from there to Kuwait, and then to Saudi Arabia. Some of our brother writers and correspondents were with me on this tour. The custodian of the two holy mosques did not delay and said, I agree. I told him I want the meeting held in Jeddah and not in Cairo. He agreed and told me: I will start the contacts. The contacts took a long time. Wednesday and Thursday passed. I contacted the custodian of the two holy mosques two or three times.

A statement was issued in Baghdad saying that the meeting to be held would be one of protocol. Naturally, this angered the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. What protocol meeting? Are we holding a meeting to bring views closer or holding a protocol meeting where we sit, shake each other's hands, and then leave? The custodian of the two holy mosques then sent his foreign minister, who spoke with President Saddam Husayn. They agreed that this meeting would discuss the issue.

During my trip from Baghdad to Kuwait, I saw in news agency reports that the Iraqi foreign minister had made a statement saying that during the Egyptian president's visit to Iraq the issue of Kuwait and Iraq was not discussed but that the talks concerned bilateral relations. I read this before arriving in Kuwait and said: Oh God, what is this—why? Am I doing anything or achieving anything? I am talking within an Arab framework of Arab brotherhood. This is our friend and our brother and the other is our friend and brother. I am bringing their views closer, with the cooperation of many Arab brothers.

The truth is that I was a little annoyed but I said never mind. But then I sent a second envoy to Iraq on Thursday—and I was there on Tuesday—and told them: Is this reasonable? We did not get the expected reply, but we said all right.

The meeting was held on Tuesday, 31 July, and lasted until the afternoon of Wednesday, 2 August—sorry, 1 August. I in fact heard about what went on the dialogue from both parties. What I heard from Iraq differed from what I heard from Kuwait and vice versa. Kuwait said the other party entered, said a few words, and did not want to sit with us. We said let us postpone it. They said: No. We are tired. Iraq said that the other party came with an inflexible stand. There were two versions that left one at a loss. But I knew about this later.

On 2 August, at around 0430 in the morning—while I was saying that God willing, let this August be a quiet month for once so that one can rest, if only for a week—I was told: There is an attack, the situation is grave, and they have occupied positions and entered Kuwait. My mind became paralyzed. I was originally a military man and know very well how these events develop. I can assess them because I participated in this sort of thing many times and had assessed many situations, some of which were much more difficult than this one.

I woke up. I could not believe what was happening. Iraq and Kuwait, two Arab countries, members of the Arab League, who suffered together in the war—one was attacked and the other helped with money. In fact I was stunned and could not believe myself.

At that time, [United Arab Emirates President] Shaykh Zayid was in Alexandria. On that particular day he was supposed to have lunch with me. At 0800, he telephoned me and said there were certain circumstances. I told him that I would go over them with him. I went to him. We talked, and he decided to leave so that he could learn about the situation in his country and what was going on in the region.

On that same day, Shakyh Zayid left at about 1400. I was in Alexandria. I came to see him off. At around 1515, when I was getting ready to return to Alexandria, His Majesty King Husayn asked to visit me. The man always takes the initiative and makes contacts, and we have a dialogue together. He came to Alexandria. He arrived at around 1755. I had been waiting for him at the airport since 1730. That was on the afternoon of Thursday, the day of the invasion. We sat together talking in Ra's al-Tin palace. I told him that the situation was grave and that we should find a solution. No one wanted an expanded Arab summit, because the Arabs, by nature, prefer to talk in small groups. At Arab summits, we trade accusations and curses without reaching any results. Therefore, you find that we do not want to meet at Arab summits. For how long have we been meeting at extraordinary summits? Every five months we hold an extraordinary summit, which gets together after much ado.

I told him: Your majesty, the situation has become very grave, and I fear the repercussions. If we do not tackle the problem it will be destructive and will put the entire Arab nation at stake. Our position will be as bad as could be expected. I believe that you should visit President Saddam Husayn and try to talk to him on two basic points that we can handle and use as a basis for an Arab summit, even a limited Arab summit, so that we can talk and help our brother in Iraq. Or else the situation will develop further. I told him that the first point should be the immediate withdrawal from Kuwait, which is an independent and sovereign state. The second point should be to stop trying to overthrow regimes by force, because it is not a man's responsibility to change a system in a neighboring country by force. This is the responsibility of the people. This is the right of the people. It is a very serious principle to let a foreign power come and destroy regimes or overthrow them. This is a very serious matter anywhere in the world, so what about the Arab world?

I told him we must achieve these two things. They must withdraw first and then we can begin negotiations over existing problems and help resolve them. If the situation requires Arab forces I will participate in them, to act as a buffer zone [preceding two words in English] between Iraq and Kuwait until the talks are concluded and the problem is solved.

Without agreeing on these, we would not be able to have a summit, albeit a limited one, in Riyadh or Jeddah. I talked to our brother President Saddam Husayn and told him that King Husayn was coming to see him the next day. The airspace was closed. We agreed on a way for him to reach Baghdad. He would take an aircraft to the Jordanian border, then take a car from there, and then an Iraqi aircraft would take him to Baghdad. If we agreed on these two points, there would be a basis for a summit, instead of insulting each other and achieving nothing.

This was on Thursday. The Arab League Council was in session and was planning to issue a resolution. I think that you have heard it. It contained a condemnation and other clauses. There is no reason for me to repeat it, because it has been published. We were ready to issue a statement, because Egypt cannot, in the face of such a momentous event, sit idle and not express its opinion. Our problem in the Arab nation is that if you express your opinion, and this opinion is different from someone else's, you are considered an enemy. In other words, if someone expresses an opinion that is different from mine, we become enemies. There are different opinions throughout the world. But the principle of difference of opinion is not a basis for enmity. Brother, I tell you my opinion, and you tell me yours. I tell you: Beware, you are an Arab state. Your affairs are of interest to me. I care that your country should not be overthrown. I care about your country's standard of living. I care about peace in the area. When I express my opinion, this should not provide a basis for you to say that Egypt is hostile.

I said that I have to issue a statement. Public opinion in Egypt was exerting pressure. Indeed, everyone was asking: Where is the president? What is Egypt's position? You all remember. Everyone was asking what Egypt's position was. I received calls from abroad. Finally, I stopped answering the telephone. What was the reason? King Husayn told me: If I go [to Baghdad], and this statement is issued—the Arab League and the foreign ministers, as you all know, wanted to issue the statement on that day—King Husayn told me that if this statement were issued, it would torpedo our efforts and nothing could be achieved with President Saddam Husayn.

I picked up the telephone. I spoke to our foreign minister, the Saudi foreign minister, the Kuwaiti representative, and several other foreign ministers and told them: Please, there are efforts being made to stop this deterioration. Please, can you, Arab League Council, postpone it until tomorrow. They said: This is difficult. The entire world has condemned it; the UN Security Council has met; all the foreign countries have condemned it; how would we look before the world as Arabs? Everyone is asking what the Arab League's position is. Indeed, such things were said, and you all have heard them. I told them: Never mind, please, there is perhaps a glimmer of hope that we can achieve a solution instead of having to clash with each other. They postponed the conference until 1800 on Friday. I did not issue my statement. I was tense. If Egypt does not issue a statement, the entire world will criticize it—not only the world; the Egyptian public has its opinion. I cannot disregard it. No president could stand against the current, against public opinion in his country if there were unanimity over an Egyptian position against the invasion, irrespective of whether this one is our friend or not. No one accepts the invasion and occupation by force of one Arab country by another Arab country.

On Friday, 3 August, at approximately 1600, my brother King Husayn telephoned me and informed me that an agreement had been reached on convening a limited summit conference. This agreement was between ourselves. We had not yet spoken to other kings or heads of state. We were saying if we could accept these principles of withdrawal and so on—those three points [as heard], then we could speak of holding a summit conference so that we would not quarrel at the meeting. When this happens some countries do not like to attend. I asked the king what had happened, and he replied that he [not further identified—apparently Saddam Husayn] had accepted the summit. I then asked on what basis the summit should be held—on the basis of these few points? He told me he had not been able to discuss details. I answered that I could not accept that. Could I contact the custodian of the two holy mosques and invite him to attend a summit while we still did not know what we were going to achieve? Could we sit down and use invective against each other and then have the world say the summit had failed? The issue would worsen and deteriorate. Our image before the world would be very bad. We wanted a summit, but we would have to agree on the working paper—at least reach minimum agreement—before we met. We would then sit down and discuss things until, we hoped, we fully achieved at least an advanced step toward halting the deterioration and the conflict that had taken place.

Consequently, I found myself unable to issue a statement. The Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council were meeting and ready to issue a statement after me. The Arab League issued a statement at about 2130. As you know, of course, neither Yemen, Jordan, Sudan, nor Mauritania accepted the statement. [murmurs] Yes, not the PLO either. Not the PLO. As for Libya, he [the Libyan delegate] did not attend. Regardless of who attended or did not attend, the world began looking at the Arab League and saying yes, it has actually done something. We were ridiculed by the whole world. Where is the Arab League? Is the Arab League asleep, is it a corpse? I heard terrible talk on the radios. There were really harmful accusations. This is because we are always late and slow in adopting a decision on such matters.

Our brother His Majesty King Fahd had said the same thing about withdrawal, the restoration of the legitimate government, and so on. The issue reached Baghdad, but he did not get any result in this regard. On the contrary, they were saying the al-Sabah family will not return. In one American's view, the issue was not that of a family being restored or not, but a matter of principle. It is an issue of its being wrong to remove a regime by foreign force. If the people remove their own regime—we recognize peoples' regimes [sentence as heard]. But I cannot do that. Then anyone to whom it occurs could remove the regime in a neighboring country by force. I come and strike and seize one country, another comes and seizes another country, and then there will be no international or Arab community—nothing. For this reason I am making it clear that there was absolutely no agreed-upon summit. It was simply talk between me and our brother His Majesty King Husayn, but there was no summit. Some newspapers rumored that Egypt had thwarted the summit. What summit? I was holding talks with a view to holding a summit. However, if a summit is to be held, there must be a basis for such a meeting, instead of coming and attending and—as it is our nature to do—having everyone hurling embarrassing invectives. Then all this would become known abroad, and our image would be shameful before the world, particularly because the issue had become international.

You know the Arab League's resolution—condemning the Iraqi invasion, rejecting all its effects, denouncing bloodshed and the destruction of installations, demanding an immediate and unconditional Iraqi withdrawal, raising the issue of convening a summit to the Arab kings and presidents, emphasizing the principle of respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Arab countries, adhering to the principle of not resorting to force to settle disputes, and rejecting any foreign intervention or attempted intervention.

The Islamic conference adopted a similar resolution, and the Gulf Cooperation Council's foreign ministers conference adopted a decision before the Arab foreign ministers conference's resolution. The point is we were here differing among ourselves, when the UN Security Council, at its first meeting on Friday 2 August, condemned the Iraqi invasion as a violation of world peace and security, demanded the withdrawal of the Iraqi troops, and asserted that the council's move was in accordance with Article 7 of the UN Charter, which deals with threats to and violation of peace. The UN Security Council beat us to a decision, as though the issue were not Arab and the Arabs were a motionless corpse who could not move, speak up, or react to an invasion of a state by another Arab state. They must have said that we were scared. The worst accusations were leveled at us, and you must have heard them.

The UN Security Council held its second meeting, the day before yesterday as far as I remember. It adopted a stricter resolution banning the import of any products from both Iraq and Kuwait or the export of any products to both countries, including weapons and other things. This is practically an economic blockade. No country is to import from or export to Iraq. No country is to buy Iraqi or Kuwaiti oil.

Article 41 of the UN Charter stipulates that if such a blockade does not produce results, Article 42, on the military blockade and use of military force, is to be applied. Are we Arabs just spectators? Is time so worthless to us that we postpone thinking until tomorrow or after tomorrow? Should we wait until there is a catastrophe and matters are out of our hands? The present reality in the international arena is...[Mubarak changes thought] I received telephone calls from the Canadian prime minister, the U.S. President, Mitterrand of France, the British prime minister, and Turkey. Everybody expressed concern at the situation. They all said that a blockade is inevitable. I tried to persuade them to give us a chance. I asked the U.S. President to give us a chance before making any decisions. He said he would impose the sanctions and give us the chance in the meantime. I have been trying to find hope. All the doors are closed. I meet some of them and say that the situation is very grave. I tell my brothers in Baghdad that there is nothing wrong between us. I keep telling them that the statement I made was useful to them, because Egypt cannot lose its credibility [preceding word in English] before the entire world and thus lose the ability to mediate with any world country in connection with any issue.

I can never accept this for our country. I tell them the situation is grave, that European countries are moving, and that Arab countries no longer trust each other. You said you would not strike but you did. You are now marching on to Saudi Arabia. If you say that you would not strike, Saudi Arabia would not believe you. Should it wait until a catastrophe takes place there too? Moreover, each and every state is scared. There is no credibility for the words "we will not strike, or we will not attack" anymore. They will say he promised not to attack and he attacked Kuwait.

According to the world news it is no secret that the U.S. aircraft, British units, and the world are doing as they please in our area. I said this to our brothers in Iraq, and I will reiterate it, although it is no secret but an evaluation of a situation. However, I hope no one will talk to me later about imperialism, treason, and agentry. I give my opinion as a solid military man who knows how to evaluate a situation and how to deal with our area. I fear that Iraq might receive a very strong blow from many directions. Do not believe that these fleets will remain idle. It is not like when the Americans entered Lebanon. No, no, no. The situation is completely different and has been well considered. I am stating a personal opinion here. I have not received a word about an aggression.

What is very clear to me, however, is that an aggression, which might be tragic or destructive, is imminent. Our standing as an Arab nation will be at its lowest. They [not further identified] refuse to let us use an Arab umbrella to contain the crisis. The states that are afraid and the states that deal with this incursion say: I will cooperate with the devil for the sake of my country. They are right. Do you then blame those who request U.S. aid? As long as you do not accept the Arabs and the Arab umbrella, then I will give you the foreign umbrella—not only the American but the American, the British, and the French ones as well. I will provide it so that you may impose what you want. This is our position, O Arab nation. Is it not more honorable for us to solve our problem within the framework of the Arab umbrella? Is it not more honorable for us to let the voice of right judge between us? Is it not more honorable for us to meet, speak frankly, and lay our cards on the table in order to achieve a just and sound solution without any humiliation or harm?

Brothers, I consider the issue to be very grave. Interceptor defensive fighter planes went to an Arab country. The fleets are busy. The aircraft carriers are crossing. I might be asked to prevent the crossing of an aircraft carrier. I cannot prevent an aircraft carrier crossing. According to the Constantinople agreement, I cannot prevent anyone crossing the Suez Canal unless I am in a state of war. I am not going to tell all the states: Do not cross, do not cross, do not cross. I cannot do so and have no right to do so. In order that you may not involve me, do not do what you like and then involve me and ask me to do the impossible. Do not put me in an embarrassing situation. You have your interests and I have mine. I safeguard Arab dignity as much as I can, but if you want to undermine and torpedo Arab dignity, then take the responsibility. Therefore, let us not blame those who request foreign forces. They have an excuse to do so because we do not want to respond to the Arab umbrella and to the voice of reason.

There is talk about Egyptian forces that are in charge of protection there. We have no Egyptian forces there. We have made no moves, and there is no talk about any moves. However, I say it frankly, if I am requested to participate with Arab troops of a certain country for security purposes, I do not believe that Egypt can refuse. I will participate with joint Arab forces but not with foreign forces. I do not believe that we will object to the participation in joint Arab forces because we are Arabs, and we desire to find an Arab solution and listen to the voice of reason, saying that all the forces should be Arab, if this is possible. [applause]

Frankly, I do indeed see a gloomy picture. Some analyses may say it is not gloomy. However, I am telling you that I have previous experience in this field. The picture is horrifying. If we do not tackle the issue and move swiftly, we will have no significance. We will be as good as dead bodies. We will be humiliated and dictated to. The military power will impose its will on us in spite of ourselves. It is through reason that we know God. We should not be obstinate. If someone knows that a certain action is bound to destroy him and insists on it, he will be done for. Will my destruction benefit anyone? To sacrifice myself for the sake of my people is acceptable and so it is to sacrifice a group for the sake of a nation. However, all this will be destroyed. Why, when we have good leaders? Why, when God endowed us with a mind to think with and with logic? I expect that they will take my words as a sign of enmity between us. I harbor no hostility toward anyone. I am prejudiced against no one. If I give advice to a certain state or friend, I give it sincerely for the sake of pan-Arab peace and security, and God is my witness. I have no private interests. We did not take financial assistance from any party to stand by it. Absolutely not.

From this rostrum I appeal to President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi leadership to respond to the Arab umbrella, to withdraw their forces from Kuwait, and to restore the legitimate government to Kuwait. There is no objection to collective Arab forces acting as a buffer for the two sides, provided that negotiations begin to resolve the dispute. I am confident that through Arab cooperation we will reach a solution for the Iraqi-Kuwaiti problem. [applause]

In the meantime, time is passing very fast and events are moving faster than what we are doing. For this reason, I am calling for an urgent Arab summit conference in the next 24 hours—if possible within the next few hours. This will be more dignified for Egypt—for the Arab world—and it is better than having a solution imposed on us through foreign power. I am appealing to presidents and kings to respond to this appeal. I am willing in this circumstance to host the Arab summit in Egypt so that perhaps we may reach a solution before that which we do not like or accept for ourselves happens.

Pan-Arab security is at stake, and Iraq's safety is at stake. They will of course say that it is not at stake. This is my view. I am expressing my own point of view. There is no harm in that. The Arab nation's image and capability are at stake. The Arab nation is capable of finding a solution. However, there must be a response. Therefore, I am calling once again and appealing to President Saddam and the Arab nation to respond to the call for an Arab summit within 24 hours at the maximum. I hope we will find a solution and discuss the issue. It must not be an Arab summit at which we trade accusations and curses or tear each other apart. It must be a summit for resolving the problem within the Arab framework, which is more dignified for the Arab nation. I have delivered the message and may the Almighty be my witness. May God's peace and mercy be on you. [applause]

Ghali on Peaceful Solution for Gulf Crisis

NC0708150090 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that Egypt is making extensive contacts to find a peaceful solution to the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict. He added that what is important is that this solution be within the Arab family and away from any foreign intervention in the region's affairs.

Dr. Ghali said that a solution will naturally take some time, but what is important is the need to achieve peace and stability in the region. Dr. Ghali said he does not believe there will be a further confrontation between Iraq and any Arab country. He said a solution to the Gulf conflict will avert any outside intervention in the Arab region's affairs.

Kuwait Crown Prince Arrives in Egypt

NC0708164790 Cairo MENA in English 1644 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, Aug 7 (MENA)—Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, Kuwaiti crown prince, premier, and defence minister, arrived at al-Nuzhah airport here today on a short visit to Egypt. He will hold talks with President Husni Mubarak to reach a solution for the volatile crisis in the Gulf in the light of Egypt's intensive contacts with Arab and international quarters to contain the Gulf crisis.

Holds Discussions With Mubarak

NC0708171490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1658 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent, prime minister, and defense minister, and the delegation accompanying him, at the Ra's al-Tin palace today. The delegation includes Justice and Legal Affairs Minister Dari 'Abdallah; Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, minister of state for cabinet affairs; 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Kandari, Kuwait's ambassador in Cairo; and 'Abd-al-Latif al-Bahr, deputy director of the office of his highness the heir apparent and prime minister.

The discussion during the meeting centered on the latest developments regarding the explosive situation in the Gulf in the wake of the Iraqi troops' incursion of Kuwaiti territory and the possibility of finding a peaceful solution within the Arab family in order to avert the intervention of any foreign troops in the conflict.

Lauds Egypt's 'Courageous' Stand

NC0708180490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1718 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent, prime minister, and defense minister, has lauded the principled and courageous positions of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Upon his arrival in Alexandria tonight, the Kuwaiti heir apparent said: It is always a pleasure for me to come to Egypt, our big sister; a country of bravery, honor, integrity, and principled stands; a champion of the great crossing [of the Suez Canal during the 1973 war] and of the Arab causes; a country who came under great pressures and made massive sacrifices and who never expected anything in return. Egypt has never treated anyone disdainfully, never attacked a neighbor, never craved the property of others. It has always been generous, even in times of hardship and need.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah stressed that Egypt has always had a pure heart, a clean hand, and chaste language.

He added: I came today to convey to dear Egypt, its president, government, and people, the thanks and appreciation of its sister Kuwait, its amir, government, and people, for Egypt's honorable stand rejecting the aggression on the State of Kuwait, its insistence on the need for the withdrawal of the invading forces from all Kuwaiti territories, and its adherence and backing for the legitimate Government of the State of Kuwait. I am also pleased to convey to the friendly Egyptian people the greetings of their brothers, the people of Kuwait, who are now being killed and subjected to oppession and terrorism at the hands of the invading forces. These forces are, with much deep regret and sorrow, the Arab forces of an Arab country that is our neighbor, from which we have never expected treachery and aggression.

Concluding his statements, the Kuwaiti crown prince said: I am looking forward to my meeting with His Excellency brother President Husni Mubarak, whose courageous stand embodies Egypt's noble spirit in condemning the aggression, confronting the aggressor, and supporting right and justice. I am also looking toward consulting his excellency on the aggression on Kuwait and its people.

Comments on Talks, Departs

NC0808065790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2154 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent, prime minister, and defense minister, said that during his meeting with President Husni Mubarak that lasted over three hours tonight, they discussed the latest developments in the Gulf region in light of the Iraqi military invasion of Kuwait.

Speaking to Egyptian and foreign reporters following his session of talks with President Mubarak, the Kuwaiti heir apparent said that he and President Mubarak discussed the prospects for finding a formula for full and immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. Shaykh Sa'd said that Egypt, its people, and its president support the restoration of legitimate authority to Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti heir apparent said: When I speak of the withdrawal of the Iraqi troops, I mean their return to where they were at the beginning of this month.

The Kuwaiti heir apparent said that no Kuwaiti would have imagined that Kuwait would be attacked by Arab troops.

The Kuwaiti heir apparent said that he was greatly pained by the Iraqi invasion. What happened, he said, has pained every Kuwaiti and, I think, every Arab and every peace-loving nation.

Shaykh Sa'd noted that in the meetings of the Arab League and the Islamic Conference Organization, the foreign ministers of Arab and Islamic nations, have passed clear resolutions and recommendations calling on the aggressor state to withdraw its forces immediately and supporting the legitimate Kuwaiti authorities. The UN Security Council also met and issued resolutions and recommendations requiring Iraq to withdraw its armed forces from Kuwaiti territories, the Kuwaiti heir apparent noted.

Shaykh Sa'd said that Iraq now has to withdraw its forces and listen to world public opinion.

Asked if he were ready to sit with Iraq to discuss this crisis, the Kuwaiti heir apparent said that all Iraqi armed forces should withdraw completely from all the occupied Kuwaiti territories and that the legitimate authority should be restored. After that, we will be able to think of holding any meeting at any level to discuss the problems and issues involving the two neighboring countries.

On whether he thinks the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis can be solved by peaceful means, the Kuwaiti heir apparent said: I wish with all my heart that Iraq would start by pulling out its armed forces; then all matters can be resolved in cordial meetings.

As for his assessment of the Arab and Egyptian positions in light of his talks with President Mubarak, Shaykh Sa'd said that the Egyptian president, government, and people have made their position clear—that Iraqi troops should leave Kuwait and that the legitimate authorities should return there. We in Kuwait are satisfied with this noble stand, he said.

Asked to assess the possibility of matters developing into foreign intervention, the Kuwaiti heir apparent said: I cannot answer this question or foresee what will happen in the future, for this issue is now in the hands of the leaders of Arab countries.

Asked to comment on the declaration of the republic in Kuwait, Shaykh Sa'd said: I have not heard of that. However, such a thing is rejected by the Arab world and Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti heir apparent started his encounter with the Egyptian and world press with a short statement in which he expressed satisfaction with Egypt's stands. He said that Egypt is his second home and a country of valor and unshifting loyalties and principles. Shaykh Sa'd said: I listened to President Mubarak, and we discussed in detail the attack waged by Iraqi troops on Kuwaiti territories on Thursday. I am pleased to tell you that I found Brother President Mubarak greatly interested in serious efforts to resolve the Iraqi- Kuwaiti problem and to find a formula for the full and immediate withdrawal of the Iraqi military forces from all Kuwaiti territory.

[In an Alexandria-datelined item at 2140 GMT on 7 August, Cairo MENA in Arabic adds, "Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent, prime minister, and defense minister, and his accompanying delegation left Alexandria tonight following a brief visit during which he held talks with President Husni Mubarak concerning the latest developments in the Gulf region and the prospects of finding a peaceful solution leading to the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwaiti territory."]

Spokesman Says Military Decision Up to Mubarak

LD0708202490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1916 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, August 7 (TANJUG)—An Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman told TANJUG today that only President Husni Mubarak could decide on Egypt's possible military engagement if Iraq penetrates further into the Gulf region.

TANJUG's Cairo correspondent asked the spokesman whether Egypt would directly oppose its Army to Iraq's should Iraq attack Saudi Arabia. The spokesman replied: "I don't know. Only President Mubarak can decide on that."

The spokesman added that was not acquainted that [as received] the U.S. had given logistic support to an Arab country's army, as the BBC reported, allegedly to join that army with U.S. forces in attacking Iraq if it should attack Saudi Arabia.

Asked whether Egypt was preparing a new diplomatic initiative, the spokesman replied that Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim was due in Alexandria today and would be received by President Mubarak.

Mubarak Meets Secretary Cheney 7 Aug

Saddam Note Cited

JN0708223390 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] President Mubarak this afternoon received U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and informed him of Egypt's rejection of any foreign intervention in the Gulf crisis. Meanwhile, Egyptian sources indicated that the U.S. defense secretary requested military facilities from Egypt for the United States. However, President Mubarak reiterated his categorical rejection of this.

Meanwhile, Arab sources in Cairo affirmed that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak delivered by Iraqi Vice President 'Izzat Ibrahim contained a detailed explanation of the crisis in the Gulf and the reasons that prompted the Iraqi leadership to make the decision to intervene in Kuwait. In his message, the Iraqi president affirmed his country's resolve to withdraw its forces from Kuwait in accordance with a specific timetable. Saddam asked President Mubarak to exert efforts among various international forces to stop any attempt at foreign intervention in the region, indicating that such an intervention will obstruct the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. He also affirmed that his country will most strongly respond to any attempt to intervene in the affairs of Kuwait or Iraq. The Iraqi president denied the reports which talked about an Iraqi intention to invade Saudi territory and referred to his country's abidance by the nonaggression treaty with Saudi Arabia. President Saddam Husayn asked Egypt to give up some of its strict conditions toward Iraq, affirming that an Egyptian-Iraqi coordination would contain the current crisis.

For his part, President Mubarak affirmed that the basic difference is one over positions. He indicated that Iraq's withdrawing from Kuwait and allowing the legitimate rule to return is not an Egyptian demand only, but also a pan-Arab and international demand that conforms with all Arab and international principles, resolutions, and norms.

Finally, following a meeting with the Italian ambassador at noon today, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs declared that Egypt is holding intensive contacts to find a peaceful solution to the crisis and that what is important is to have a solution within the Arab framework and away from any foreign intervention. He said a solution needs some time, adding that he does not believe that another confrontation will take place between Iraq and any Arab country.

Military Facilities Denied

NC0708164490 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1628 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] President Husni Mubarak has rejected, on behalf of Egypt, U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney's request to provide Egyptian military facilities for the U.S. troops. Mubarak emphasized Egypt's absolute rejection of any foreign intervention and the use of force in the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict.

Airport Prepares To Receive 75,000 Returnees

NC0808060690 Cairo MENA in French 0558 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA)—A state of emergency has been declared at Cairo International Airport in preparation to receive 75,000 Egyptians who will arrive Wednesday morning from Kuwait and Iraq.

All facilities will be offered, taking into account that some of them will not have passports.

Palestinian Official Praises Mubarak's Role

NC0808070090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2316 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA)—Palestinian Ambassador Sa'id Kamal has voiced hope that President Husni Mubarak's meeting with President Yasir 'Arafat yesterday and his meeting with 'Izzat Ibrahim, President Saddam Husayn's first deputy, today will help the movement toward adopting positive steps to contain the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict without foreign intervention.

Kamal said that the Palestinian leaders appreciate President Mubarak's important role in averting the dangers facing the Arab nation.

More Iraqis To Return Home via Jordan

NC0808080890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0708 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA)—An Iraqi airliner carrying 180 Iraqi nationals who are returning to their country took off for Amman this morning. This was stated by an official at Cairo Airport who added that this is the second such flight. The first flight left two days ago carrying 140 Iraqis.

Papers on Foreign Intervention, Arab Silence

NC0808101990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0607 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA)—Cairo dailies continue to focus on the deteriorating situation in the Gulf which threatens to explode at any moment.

AL-AHRAM, AL-AKHBAR, and AL-JUMHURIYAH stress that events are moving rapidly and the region has been the scene of intensive U.S. military moves amid clear threats of imposing an international naval blockade on Iraq and an Iraqi warning that it will attack Saudi Arabia if it shuts down the Iraqi pipeline passing through its territory.

The papers report President Husni Mubarak's Arab and international contacts, his numerous meetings, and his search for an appropriate rightful and just solution that is based on the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

The three papers' editorials deal with the same issue. They emphasize that the unanimous international condemnation of Iraq demonstrates the international community's desire to adhere to legitimacy and international law. They point out that this unanimity proved from the start that the government established by the occupation authorities and which consists of Iraqi army officers is a sham.

Under the headline "Some Want War," AL-AHRAM criticizes Arab reactions to the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis as slow and semi-impotent. It adds that the Arab countries are still talking about containing the crisis, although the event itself exceeds the status of a crisis to that of actual war, invasion, and occupation.

AL-AHRAM warns that there is a scheme by the major powers to redraw the regional map and bring it more in line with the requirements of their new interests. The paper points out that Israel is of course ready to carry out a multi-faceted role of punitive or deterrent actions. It adds that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, whether carried out in arrogant heedlessness, a sense of supremacy, or because of economic pressures, has provided support for this scheme.

The paper declares that it is certain that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait is in agreement with secret, perhaps national [as received] interests that want to exploit the atmosphere of bloody regional conflict to impose ready plans of hegemony and control that they cannot impose under normal circumstances.

In conclusion the paper says that apparently there are old accounts to settle or previously shelved plans that are surfacing now and waiting to provide a suitable opportunity for flagrant intervention.

AL-AKHBAR asserts that some Arab parties's silence about what is happening in Kuwait and some other Arab parties' attempts to justify or support the aggression on an independent Arab country is a greater and more hideous sin than the aggression itself because such attitudes support an act that contravenes all international principles, international law and legitimacy, and the bonds of Arab kinship, neighborhood, and fraternity.

In this connection, the paper says that although international reports immediately revealed that the government formed in Kuwait by the Iraqi occupation forces was a sham, some Arab newspapers want to convince us that the agents of that government are legitimate and that they are really Kuwaitis. The paper describes this attempt as an unacceptable and vulgar ploy that the colonialists used to employ everywhere and which eventually failed everywhere and in every age.

AL-AHRAM concludes by stressing that this perverse attitude by some circles professing to belong to the Arab nation demonstrates the extent of the damage caused by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait to Arab solidarity which was thought to be real. The paper adds that this Arab solidarity failed to hold up even when the aggressor and the victim were both members of the Arab family.

Under the title "The Importance of an Arab Solution," AL-JUMHURIYAH says the increasingly volatile developments decisively prove the soundness of the Egyptian stance which chose from the first day of the crisis between the two countries to seek an Arab solution as the only sound and desired option. The paper adds that Cairo is continuing its efforts to keep the crisis within the Arab family and is seeking a solution based on the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi troops and the preservation of the legitimate regime in Kuwait .

AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that if the Arabs succeed in persuading the concerned parties to accept a just solution they will make a new gain that will be added to the strength of the Arab rightfulness with regard to the peace process. It warns that, conversely, if their consultations fail to reach an Arab solution, the opportunity will be given to those who have [words indistinct] and interests to achieve their objectives in killing the peace process, perpetuating the partition of Lebanon, and [words indistinct] territorial conflicts.

Nation Said Considering Joining Multinational Force

NC0808105290 Paris AFP in English 1046 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] , Aug 8 (AFP) [dateline as received]—Egypt was Wednesday studying the terms of joining a multinational force in Saudi Arabia, spearheaded by the United States to defend the kingdom against Iraq, informed sources said. They said Egypt would be prepared to join the multi-national force with an official request from the Saudis, under the terms of an Arab defence pact, though Riyadh had not yet made any such request, the sources said.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak was due to address the nation later Wednesday.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Butrus Ghali said Wednesday that he could neither confirm nor deny Egyptian participation in the multinational force, in an interview with French radio.

"But I do not think that Egypt would participate in any kind of force because it believes or hopes that the conflict can be settled peacefully," he told Radio France Internationale.

U.S. Defense Department sources earlier had said that Egyptian troops would be deployed as part of the multinational force in Saudi Arabia that will include 2,000 to 4,000 American ground troops and bombers. Washington decided to send troops to Saudi Arabia citing an "imminent threat" by Iraq.

Mubarak Confers With Algerian President

NC0808122690 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Algerian President Chedli Bendjdid telephoned President Husni Mubarak this afternoon. The two leaders held consultations on the notably escalating situation in the Gulf region.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Phones Arab Leaders on U.S. Moves

LD0808084190 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Aug (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution contacted Arab leaders by telephone throughout last night and this morning on the crisis situation in the Arab Gulf.

The brother leader contacted President Chadli Bendjedid, the president of the Republic of Algeria; President 'Ali Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council in the Yemeni Republic; and President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the Republic of Tunisia. The brother leader of the revolution also made telephone contacts with Hassan II, the king of Morocco; Husayn, the king of Jordan; Egyptian President Husni Mubarak; and Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat.

JANA has learned that during these contacts, which lasted throughout last night and this morning, the crisis situation in the Arab Gulf, the start of the landing of U.S. forces on Arab territories, and the danger this poses for Arab freedom and dignity, were discussed.

Libyan, Belgian Oil Officials Meet 4 Aug

LD0508174590 Tripoli JANA in English 1416 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Tripoli, Hanibal 5 [5 August], JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The secretary of the People's Committee for Oil met yesterday in Tripoli with Belgian minister for energy. The two sides discussed, during this meeting, relations of cooperation between Great Jamahiriyah and Belgium and ways to consolidate and develop them.

Belgian Minister on 'Close Cooperation'

LD0508175290 Tripoli JANA in English 1621 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Tripoli, Hanibal 5 [5 August], JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Belgian oil minister asserted that Great Jamahiriyah accomplished, thanks to the revolution, remarkable scientific and industrial progress in all aspects of life. The minister pointed that the European countries were in need for relations of scientific and economic cooperation with the Arabs. He said that Great Jamahiriyah plays an important role in European Arab cooperation especially Great Jamahiriyah is an active member of the Arab Maghreb Union.

The Belgian oil minister told JANA that he met, during his visit to Great Jamahiriyah, with experts of scientific research and energy. He said 'there is the possibility of close cooperation between Great Jamahiriyah and Belgium in the sphere of scientific research and energy which may benefit the Libyan Arab people and the Belgian people.' The minister stressed that his country and Europe have important cooperation with the Arab world.

The Belgian oil minister is currently on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

Meeting Minutes Signed 5 Aug

LD0508175590 Tripoli JANA in English 1623 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Tripoli, Hanibal 5 [5 August], JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Minutes of the meeting for cooperation in the field of energy between Great Jamahiriyah and Belgium were signed today in Tripoli. The minutes were signed by the secretary of the people's committee for oil and the Belgian minister of state for energy affairs.

Mauritania

Taya Receives Iraqi Envoy, Wishes Iraq 'Victory'

JN0608170490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Nouakchott, 6 Aug (INA)—Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, Mauritanian president and president of the Military Committee for National Salvation, today received Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, President Saddam Husayn's envoy and Iraqi minister of transport and communications.

President Saddam Husayn's envoy delivered a message from his excellency to the Mauritanian president which deals with bilateral relations and developments on the Arab arena.

Mauritanian President Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya stressed Mauritania's unequivocal support for Iraq, and his country's rejection of any foreign intervention in the Arab nation's critical issues. He also wished Iraq victory.

Muhammad Hamzah arrived in Nouakchott today. He was received by Major Cheikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba, minister of interior, post, and telecommunications, and by the Iraqi ambassador to Mauritania.

Iraqi Minister Delivers Saddam Message

LD0708150990 Paris International Service in French 1230 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpt] The Iraqi transport minister was received by the Mauritanian head of state yesterday. The Iraqi minister gave him a message from President Saddam Husayn. In a statement to the press, the Iraqi emissary said that President Saddam Husayn wanted to thank his Mauritanian counterpart for the support shown for Iraq by Nouakchott. According to the U.S. press agency AP [ASSOCIATED PRESS], dozens of Mauritanians rushed to the Iraqi Embassy yesterday to ask to go and fight as volunteers alongside the Iraqi army. [passage omitted]

Citizens Offer To Fight for Iraq in Kuwait

AB0708221890 London BBC World Service in English 1830 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Although Iraq's invasion of Kuwait has mostly met with condemnation, Iraq does have some friends in Africa. In Mauritania in particular, as Cheikh Bakhai reports in this telex from Nouakchott, popular sentiment is very clearly on the Iraqi side.

[Begin studio announcer recording] Many Mauritanians have crowded the Iraqi Embassy offering themselves as volunteers in the Iraqi-created army in Kuwait. None of the volunteers has been registered so far, and an embassy spokesman said Baghdad had been informed about the will of Mauritanians to go to Kuwait. The spokesman said a statement will be published in the local press if Baghdad agreed to take Mauritanian volunteers.

Mauritania receives most of its financial assistance from Kuwait, but her relations with Iraq have considerably increased, recently, because Baghdad is the only Arab state to support Mauritania in her conflict with neighboring Senegal. Iraq provides Mauritania with arms and political support. Iraq's influence in Mauritania has increased tremendously within Mauritanian public opinion. Ordinary Mauritanians say without Iraqi support, Senegal, which is believed here to be supported by France, will not feel deterred to invade Mauritania. [end recording]

Morocco

Minister Condemns Iraqi 'Question of Principle'

LD0708132490 Rabat MAP in English 1225 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Larache, Aug. 7 (MAP)—Minister of State Moulay Ahmed Alaoui [name and title as received] explained that Morocco's condemnation of Iraqi military invasion of Kuwait was a question of principle and a behaviour conform to the kingdom's political traditions. [sentence as received]

During a popular rally held over the week-end in Larache, some 90 km south of Tangiers, to commemorate the 412th anniversary of the Oued el-Makhazine [name as received] battle, the minister of state recalled that Morocco has always defended and backed Arab and African causes.

"Morocco which remains faithful to its principles, today voices its solidarity with the Kuwaiti brotherly people, victim of the Iraqi invasion", Moulay Ahmed said pointing out that Morocco's strong condemnation of Iraq "was a question of principle" for the Kingdom which is steadily attached to international law and respectful of its commitments within the Arab nation and the international community.

Government Council Briefed on Gulf Situation

LD0708214690 Rabat RTM Television Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpts] The council of government convened today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki. During the meeting, Government Secretary General and acting Justice Minister Abbas Kaisi presented a briefing on the outlines of the bill on the creation of administrative courts. [passage omitted]

Later the council heard a briefing by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali on the Arab League foreign ministers' council which met in Cairo over two days after the Iraqi forces' invasion of Kuwait on Thursday 2 August 1990. [passage omitted]. The minister emphasized the interest in and appreciation of the Kingdom of Morocco among regional and international circles. [passage omitted]

While having special relations with Iraq, the Kingdom of Morocco remains loyal to the fundamental principles on which international law and legitimacy, as well as the independence and sovereignty of all countries, are based. [passage omitted]

Bahrain

Prime Minister Returns Home 7 Aug

JN0808000590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1855 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Manama, 7 Aug (WAKH)—Bahraini Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah returned to Manama from abroad this evening. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Heads for GCC Meeting

NC0708125090 Paris AFP in English 1044 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Nicosia, Aug 7 (AFP)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah left Tuesday for Saudi Arabia for an emergency meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) on the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, official sources said in press reports monitored here. Shaykh Muhammad Ibn Mubarak was expected to be joined in Jeddah by his counterparts from Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

New 'Government' Head Former Attache in Libya

PM0808094990 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Aug 90 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Kuwaiti Ambassador in Cairo Says Head of 'Provisional Government' Is Former Iraqi Military Attache in Libya"]

[Text] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Kuwait's Ambassador in Cairo 'Abd-al-Raziq al-Kandari has confirmed the death of Shaykh Fahd al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Al-Kandari was speaking at a press conference yesterday attended by the late Shaykh Ahmad's son, who confirmed that his father was martyred while defending his country.

Al-Kandari denied any knowledge of a settlement plan on which consultations were being held. The only plan acceptable to Kuwait and the Arab nation, he said, is the immediate withdrawal of the Iraqi forces and the return of our amir.

The Kuwaiti ambassador praised the Egyptian people and the assistance they were extending to their Kuwaiti brothers. He said there were 25,000-30,000 Kuwaitis in Egypt.

He also said he was instructed by the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, to provide them with everything they need.

The ambassador strongly attacked the so-called "provisional government" in Kuwait. He said that 'Ala' Husayn, who claims to head that government, was an officer in the Iraqi Armed Forces and that in 1969 he was a military attache at the Iraqi Embassy in Libya. He emphasized that 'Ala' Husayn carries a passport issued in Baghdad and has nothing to do with Kuwait.

He also said: The whole world has condemned the invasion. We had expected the Arab League to condemn it too but it was decided to give the efforts that were in progress at the time another chance until the patience of the sincere people ran out and the condemnation decision was made. The Arab League's resolution was not the real reason for the cancellation of the meeting that was supposed to take place. The reason for the cancellation was stalling and procrastination.

'Provisional Government' Hails 'Era' of 'Republic'

JN0708222690 (Clandestine) Provisional Free Kuwait Government Radio [Pro-Iraq] in Arabic 1725 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, today the declaration of the republic becomes complete, and the people hammer the last nail in the coffin of the corrupt emirate and of its treacherous and agent emblems. Today, the era of the republic dawns on us, the era of the Arab individual who is free on this part of the big Arab homeland, an era in which the people will fully express their will in a manner that will satisfy their aspirations, which are closely and fatefully linked to those of the broad masses in the Arab homeland. The nascent republic of Kuwait, which has come after painful labors and protracted patience, knows its path and knows its role in the service of the masses and the fateful issues of the nation. To hell with the corrupt emirate and its licentious and criminal leaders. To hell, too, with all the agents and hirelings who are the enemies of the people and the nation, and who are the servants of colonialism, Zionism, and world imperialism.

It is the day of the people and of the nation, so that it may avenge itself, its dignity, and its honor. It is a day that history will immortalize with brilliant letters, a day that will be considered as a new Arab feat in the nation's annals. The al-Sabah family hirelings who were taken aghast are currently roaming the four parts of the world in search of a refuge and a supporter after they failed to find any in Kuwait and in the land of the Arabs. They are now prostrating themselves on the doorsteps of their masters, in the same way as those who preceded them, who were trampled by the crowds in many parts of the world. We welcome once and again the era of the republic on the land of Kuwait. Welcome to free Kuwait within its big family.

RFL Cites Resistance Communique, Radio Data

NC0708140890 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1350 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY [KUNA] carried the first communique issued by the Kuwaiti resistance. The communique spoke of three operations against the Iraqi forces in al-Ahmadi, al-Salimiyah, and one of the hotels.

The communique said 11 Iraqis were killed or wounded and two military vehicles were destroyed, adding that those who carried out the operations were Kuwaiti citizens and soldiers who used machine guns, rockets, and hand grenades.

KUNA also reported that the radio station loyal to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah has resumed transmission from inside Kuwait on the border with Saudi Arabia. It said that the radio is transmitting military marches and anti-Iraqi forces programs. It added that Kuwaiti ministers and officials are in the area where the radio is transmitting which is still under the control of Kuwaiti forces.

Ambassador to London Holds News Conference

PM0808095990 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Aug 90 p 5

[Excerpt] London—Kuwait's Ambassador to Britain Ghazi al-Rayyis has stated that seven members of al-Sabah family were martyred in the resistance operations against the Iraqi forces which invaded Kuwait and that two were taken prisoner and sent to Baghdad.

At a press conference at the embassy in London yesterday afternoon, Ambassador al-Rayyis said the Iraqi forces were not in full control of Kuwaiti territory.

He added: The Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah and some ministers are conducting the resistance operations effectively.

He said that Shaykh Khalid al-Ahmad, brother of the amir and chief of the amiri court, arrived in London at the head of a delegation to inspect the condition of the Kuwaitis in Britain and organize their return to Kuwait.

He said the amiri court chief's visit to London had nothing to do with organizating a military resistance movement. The purpose of the visit, he said, is to reassure the Kuwaitis and solve their problems. He added that many Kuwaiti families, students, and military personnel who were on training courses or spending their summer holiday in Britain had already left.

Al-Rayyis said that scores of British citizens volunteered to help "but we just thanked them because our people want to defend their territory and property themselves and within an Arab framework."

Ambassador al-Rayyis played down reports about a withdrawal of Iraqi tanks, vehicles, and forces, saying that what was seen in pictures were Kuwaiti armor and vehicles moved from their barracks.

He said the Kuwaiti resistance had enough arms to continue the resistance, Western arms.

Explaining why the Kuwaiti regular army did not resist the Iraqi forces, he said that "we regarded the assurances we received before the invasion to be sufficient. We also did not expect what happened from a country with which we had much in common, including the religious bond, and a country which we supported in times of difficulty."

The Kuwaiti ambassador said his latest contact with Kuwait was yesterday, when he heard detailed reports on the situation there and the progress of resistance operations.

He said many buildings were razed to the ground and some palaces completely destroyed with 60-70 of their inhabitants killed. He added that the total number of people killed on the Kuwaiti side was over 600 people.

He refused to go into details about the names of al-Sabah family members who were martyred, saying: "We have to wait because some of their wives, fathers, and mothers do not know anything about them."

In reply to a question, he said that the Kuwaiti people in all world capitals have expressed their love for the al-Sabah family, as is proved by the fact that not a single demonstration was staged against it.

The ambassador said he received no instructions from the [provisional] government. He added that the members of that government were unknown to the Kuwaiti people and that he refuses to deal with that government. [passage omitted]

Opposition Statement Accepts 'New Reality'

JN0808090990 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Aug 90 pp 1, 22

["Exclusive"]

[Text] The Kuwaiti opposition was involved in a most significant event yesterday, when two important opposition groups issued a statement with no reference to the former regime, the al-Sabah family. The statement centers on the future of the political system and future relations with Iraq. The statement, which was signed by former representatives Ahmad al-Khatib and Jasim al-Qatami on behalf of the democratic grouping and the national grouping, says: The nationalist forces—which suffered from the absence of democracy, the constitutional vacuum in Kuwait since 1986, the suspension of parliamentary life, and press censorship—believe that the pressing issue around which all the good forces in our country should now rally is the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory and the solving of outstanding problems between Kuwait and Iraq, in keeping with the interests of the two fraternal peoples and higher pan-Arab interests.

Observers said that, coming as the actual Iraqi withdrawal begins, the statement means that the Kuwaiti opposition has begun to deal with the event and does not refuse to be part of the future political process, as Western circles had claimed.

The statement indirectly condemns the possibility of a flagrant foreign interference in favor of Western and Zionist interests. It also stresses the importance of allowing the Kuwaitis to determine their own future. Observers view this as an acceptance of the new reality that has resulted from the entry of Iraqi forces into Kuwait.

In this regard, observers focused strongly on the idea in the statement that any future worked out by the Kuwaitis themselves should solve outstanding problems between Iraq and Kuwait on the basis of higher pan-Arab interests and without foreign interference, which is designed to serve the Zionist interests.

They also said that concentrating on the "higher pan-Arab interests" signifies approval of the logic of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

'Provisional Government' Declares Republic

JN0708161590 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1550 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Statement issued by the 'provisional free Kuwait government'; date, place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Statement issued by the Provisional Free Kuwait Government. The uprising against the agent rotten regime was not intended to make a limited reform change but to effect an essential change on the path of the comprehensive national and pan-Arab objectives of the uprising.

Based on the objectives and liberation principles of the uprising, the government has decided to cancel the Emirate in Kuwait and declare the Republic. Thus, O brother citizens, the agent rotten regime that was employed by colonialism will be buried forever and the shining national and pan-Arab dawn sought by the free men will rise.

[Signed] Provisional Free Kuwait Government, 16 Muharram 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 7 August 1990.

Iraq To Allow Westerners To Leave Via Jordan

LD0708162890 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 1500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Finns in Kuwait can be evacuated to Jordan by road. The Iraqi Foreign Ministry has told the Finnish ambassador in Baghdad that the Jordan route is the only available route for the time being. According to a representative of the Iraqi Embassy in Kuwait, the border with Saudi Arabia cannot be considered. The distance to the Jordanian border is 1,500 km, while the distance to the border with Saudi Arabia is about 100 km. According to Foreign Secretary Raino Hassinen, the Finns can drive to the Kuwaiti-Jordanian border either in their own cars or go on buses. The likely evacuation route will be from Iraq to Jordan along the so-called desert road, from al-Basrah via Baghdad to Amman. The timetable of the evacuation is still open because, according to the Iraqi announcement, the arrangements are still incomplete.

UK Citizens Traced; Law, Order Deteriorating

LD0708132590 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1234 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By Tielo Colley, Correspondent]

[Text] Consular officials in Baghdad have traced 58 of the Britons rounded up in Kuwait and taken to the Iraqi capital, the Foreign Office said today.

"This is out of an unknown total and our staff are still trying to find out exactly how many Britons there are in Baghdad and where they are," said a spokesman.

The 58 are being kept in hotels where they have been visited by British diplomatic staff.

"Of those we have traced, we will be getting in touch with their next of kin," said the spokesman.

The Foreign Office has also established that there were 63 Britons among the 367 passengers on board the British Airways flight stranded in Kuwait by last week's invasion.

Reports from Kuwait yesterday said that only these British passengers were taken to Baghdad, along with a number of Americans and Europeans.

But the Foreign Office, which is monitoring the situation through radio links and contacts, now believes other Britons may have been taken to the Iraqi capital in the round-up.

Thirty-four British servicemen and an oil worker are already being held in Baghdad.

The Foreign Office is still seeking confirmation of reports that Iraq has given permission for all foreigners living in Kuwait or Iraq to leave by land through Jordan.

"If it's true it is good news," said the spokesman.

In Kuwait, law and order is said to be deteriorating and the arrival of Iraqi conscript troops has enabled the army to move into the suburbs of Kuwait city.

The Foreign Office has said it cannot confirm reports that Britons may be allowed to leave through Jordan. The border is still understood to be closed.

A Foreign Office spokesman said British officials had kept in close touch with the Iraqi authorities over the movement of people from the British Airways jumbo jet in Kuwait to Baghdad.

The spokesman said: "Late last night Iraq confirmed this movement was taking place but could not provide further details.

"So far we have accounted for 58 people. The consular department will be in touch with their next of kin."

The 34 servicemen also being held in Baghdad were said to be well.

The Foreign Office said no reason had yet been established why people were being moved to Baghdad.

The spokesman said: "The feeling in the diplomatic community is that law and order is deteriorating.

"There are no reports of casualties in the British community. The embassy staff are all well and accounted for."

'Entire' Leadership Reportedly in Saudi Arabia

NC0608163990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—Shaykh Ahmad Ibn Fahd al-Ahmad has confirmed that his father Shaykh Fahd al-Ahmad, chairman of the Kuwaiti Olympics Committee, was martyred on the first day of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. He said that two of his brothers were also martyred with their father while defending the amir of Kuwait's palace when the Iraqi forces attacked it.

In a statement he made today, Shaykh Ahmad said his father fought in the ranks of the Egyptian Armed Forces against Israel, in the Palestinian resistance ranks, and in the ranks of the Iraqi armed forces against Iran. He stressed that he is proud of his father's martyrdom for the sake of Kuwaiti soil.

Shaykh Ahmad Ibn Fahd, who arrived in Cairo from Saudi Arabia yesterday, said that the entire Kuwaiti leadership led by Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad is in Saudi Arabia.

Minister of State Speaks on 'Occupation'

JN0608211190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1732 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Interview with Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, Kuwait minister of state for cabinet affairs, by Antoine Abu-Samrah and Mustafa Bakri in Cairo—date not given]

[Text] [Abu-Samrah] Your Excellency the Minister, we will start an open dialogue. Some of the questions may be embarrassing. We will start with the language used yesterday by the country's amir. It implies an obvious threat to Iraq. How can this threat be interpreted? He said: We are not alone in confronting the aggression. The Arabs, the Muslims, and the countries of the world support us. Your Excellency the Minister, which states are prepared to support you militarily? Does the arrival of the U.S. defense secretary and the return of Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan, who cut short his recuperation period, mean that the military confrontation of Iraq has begun, especially after the Arab mediation has failed?

[Al-'Awadi] Regarding the speech delivered by His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, on the need for everyone, every Arab and Islamic government, and every peace-loving state in the world to end the current injustice done to the peaceful State of Kuwait, I believe the call is legitimate and is designed to repulse the aggression. It is not a threat, because we in Kuwait have not been taught to make threats. We have been taught to resort to a quiet dialogue and to adhere to reason and logic. Thus, the call comes from a man, a leader, whose country is defeated, colonized, and regrettably occupied by a side that should have been a brother and a friend, with which we shared battles, and for which we offered many sacrifices. We have a legitimate right to defend our country. We urge all the peace-loving countries in the world, foremost of which are our Arab brothers and Muslims, to end this injustice to Kuwait. Regarding the arrival of the U.S. defense secretary, I can say it is part of an international move. Therefore, we cannot prevent anyone, be it the United States, the Soviet Union, or the PRC, from ending such an injustice, attack, and occupation which has no parallel in this age, and which cannot be tolerated by anyone, because it is very serious behavior that should be confronted by the world forcefully and defiantly, regardless of the results.

[Abu-Samrah] Following the failure of Arab mediation, which was declared by the U.S. President personally, is there is a solution besides the military solution?

[Al-'Awadi] I hope that there will be a peaceful solution, because any killing of any Arab is very painful to any Arab official or individual, especially since we need everyone to confront what is causing suffering to us as Arabs as a result of injustice and occupation by an enemy state in Palestine. I wonder why we are allowing ourselves to fight one another under these circumstances and at this stage of our nation's history, and also to shed Arab blood. Therefore, we hope that there will be an Arab or a peaceful solution. If we do not find such a solution, the world will not remain silent and there may be a military option, which will harm the Arab nation in Iraq or Kuwait. If this is impossible, we have to resort to surgery because as a doctor, I believe that surgery is necessary when medicine fails.

[Bakri] Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman, there have been conflicting reports on the identity of the officers who govern Kuwait. What are the latest reports regarding?

[Al-'Awadi] Brother, you know that any tyrant and occupation force appoints whoever its wants. This force has come the way it wanted, and it will select whoever it wants. It alleges that these people are Kuwaitis. What is painful is that it alleges that these forces had entered Kuwait because there was a revolution, and that they were asked to enter. It has been proved to the Iraqis that no one in Kuwait cooperated with them. This is something Kuwait is proud of, because these forces could not find any treachery. I have personally checked lists of the names of the Kuwaiti Army, but I could not find the name of any of these people in these lists. Reliable information also says that their so-called prime minister was an Iraqi military charge d'affaires in Libya during the sixties events. Any brother can make sure that his passport was issued in 1969 and that he is an Iraqi military official who was a charge d'affaires in Libya. I wonder how they allege that there is a Kuwaiti military government. I believe that this is a failure of that tyrant force. The Kuwaitis have proved they are brave men who have not accepted any threat to get them to participate in a government set up by an unjust, occupying group. Therefore, I would like to tell you that this is ridiculous and that this puppet government is affiliated with Iraq.

[Bakri] What are your expectations during the next few days? Will Kuwait accept a compromise in the current crisis?

[Al-'Awadi] We are demanding our rights. We do not want compromises. We want the unconditional withdrawal of the tyrant force. We will not accept any trace of the occupation; we will not accept any alternative to the system, and we will not accept any conditions. We want Arab and UN forces to supervise the withdrawal of these forces and to make sure that these forces will leave the so-called popular army in Kuwait. We do not want anyone belonging to that tyrant and invading force. Therefore, we do not want compromises. We demand our complete rights. We also demand that the aggressor be punished. There should be a guarantee that there be no destruction of our establishments. We hope there will be a peaceful and acceptable solution under the supervision of our brother Arabs or the United Nations. But if there should be a military solution, we cannot tell how it will be.

[Abu-Samrah] Your Excellency the Minister, there have been reports during the first days of the events that some opposition figures might agree to participate in the government. But later, no opposition leader participated in the government. There were also reports on the killing, disappearance, or arrest of some Kuwaiti opposition members. Do you have any information on this issue?

[Al-'Awadi] I have not heard this, but we believe that all the Kuwaiti opposition members are honorable men who refuse to participate in a government set up by an invasion and an occupationist regime. Although I am far from Kuwait, I have heard such reports. I would not be surprised if they were threatened and tortured. This regime will continue this method of action. No honorable man in Kuwait will agree to participate in an invading or occupying government.

[Abu-Samrah] In addition to reports on the killing of the Kuwaiti amir's brother, do you have any information about the wounding of any of the ruling family or official?

[Al-'Awadi] Regarding the Kuwaiti amir's brother, I would like to tell you that Shaykh Fahd was shot the first day the Iraqi forces entered the palace. He was taken to a hospital and he died there. He was a symbol of love. He fought for the Arabs in Palestine, in Lebanon, and even in Iraq. It ridiculous that this man was killed at the hands of Iraqis while defending his country, Kuwait. Many other people were wounded. We do not distinguish between the ruling family and the citizens. We are one entity and one family. There is no difference. One complements the other. We do not distinguish between the al-Sabah family and other families. We are one people through marriage and blood. There is no such thing called the ruling class. Therefore, many people were killed and others wounded because they did not remain silent over the invasion of their country by an army. Everyone tried to resist, but we could not confront an army 10 times bigger than ours and a tyrant force that killed and destroyed.

[Abu-Samrah] How many people were killed in the recent events, and what is the military situation in Kuwait? Did the Iraqi Army occupy all Kuwaiti territories?

[Al-'Awadi] Apart from figures, many were killed in attacks on military camps [words indistinct]. Most territories were occupied. But in my view, despite this occupation, there is still much resistance. The Kuwaiti people will fight and will not leave the Kuwaiti territories [words indistinct)

[Abu-Samrah] The Security Council is expected to impose sanctions on Iraq. Military steps and moves then may start. How do you view this?

[Al-'Awadi] This scenario is expected. As peaceful people, we cannot interfere in this issue. I hope that there will be economic sanctions and pressure to persuade Iraq to unconditionally withdraw from Kuwait and return the legitimate government under His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. Regarding the military option, we can say it will be a difficult option. As I said, surgery will be necessary if treatment fails.

[Abu-Samrah] Thanks to the doctor minister.

Kuwaiti Dinar Decreed Equivalent to Iraqi Dinar

JN0608220290 (Clandestine) Provisional Free Kuwait (pro-Iraqi) Government Radio in Arabic 2148 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Statement issued by Provisional Free Kuwait Government; date, place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Statement issued by the provisional free Kuwait government:

Out of the pan-Arab relations between the two sisterly countries, Kuwait and Iraq, and out of the higher national principles that link us, it has been decided to consider the Kuwaiti dinar equivalent to the Iraqi dinar.

[Signed] Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali, prime minister of the provisional free Kuwait government, on 7 August 1990, corresponding to 16 Muharram 1411 hegira.

Saudi Arabia

Defense Minister Meets U.S. Defense Secretary

LD0708123990 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector-general, received His Excellency Richard Cheney, U.S. secretary of defense, in Jeddah today. During the audience, they discussed issues of common interest.

Oil Company Source Says Iraqi Pipeline Shut

NC0708205990 Paris AFP in English 2053 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, Aug 7 (AFP)—The Iraqi pipeline passing through Saudi Arabia and terminating in the Western port of Yanbu' on the Red Sea was shut late Tuesday, a source at the ARAMCO [Arabian-American Oil Company] oil company said.

"The Saudis did not shut down the line, but it had to be closed because the oil tanks at the Saudi port of Yanbu' were full," the source said.

Earlier, an Iraqi pipleine passing through Turkey was shut down a day after a UN Security Council called for sweeping sanctions against Baghdad to protest its invasion of Kuwait on Aug 2.

Tehran Claims Iraqi Forces Occupy Saudi Port

NC0708174790 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1740 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Iraqi forces occupied the Saudi Ra's al-Khafjah port, which is 100 miles from the Kuwaiti al-Ahmadi port yesterday afternoon. This was announced by an informed source in London to the newspaper KEYHAN AL-'ARABI. He added that while Saudi media are keeping silent on this development, Iraqi officers confirmed the report in contacts with their friends in London.

U.S., British Nationals Leaving Saudi Cities

NC0808112190 Paris AFP in English 1118 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, Aug 8 (AFP)—Americans and Britons were leaving key Saudi cities Wednesday as the first batch of U.S. warplanes landed in the kingdom ahead of an expected U.S. deployment there. U.S., British and other Western nationals left Dhahran, al-Dammam and Al-Khubar and were heading in convoys of cars to Riyadh and Jeddah to catch flights for Europe.

Witnesses said Dhahran airport was closed to air traffic Wednesday with only military landings allowed, as U.S. warplanes landed in the eastern Saudi province to help protect the kingdom against a possible Iraqi invasion. Americans and Britons in Saudi Arabia have been advised by their embassies in Riyadh to leave the kingdom, Western diplomatic sources said.

On Wednesday, the U.S. Embassy advised dependents of U.S. nationals to leave the United Arab Emirates (UAE) but stressed there was no "specific threat" against the country following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Sami Hajjar, spokesman for the embassy in Abu Dhabi, said the U.S. State Department was "permitting the dependents of U.S. government officials to depart the area on a voluntary basis." "The department advises other American citizens to consider doing the same—that is voluntary departure of dependents only," he added, quoting a communique from Washington.

He said the area cited in the communique comprises the "eastern province of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates." But he added: "The embassy has no information to indicate that there is a specific threat against the UAE or American citizens at this time." "We will advise them if there is any change in our current assessment."

The State Department has also advised Americans to defer travel to the areas concerned "due to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the continuing unstable conditions in the region."

King Fahd Receives Message From Omani Sultan

LD0708223190 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 2150 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, may God protect him, received a message from his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id, sultan of oman. The message was conveyed to the custodian of the two holy mosques by his excellency Mr. Yusuf Bin-al-Alawi Bin 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Sultanate of Oman when King Fahd, May God support him, received him at his office in Al-Salam Palace today.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud Al-Faysal, the foreign minister.

Saudi Journalist on Situation in Kuwait

NC0708153290 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Telephone interview with Saudi journalist 'Abdallah Shihri by radio correspondent named Anwar—from the "World on the Air" program—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Anwar] Mr. 'Abdallah Shihri, how do you see the situation in the Gulf from Jeddah?

[Shihri] Truly, Mr. Anwar, this regrettable situation is very sad, particularly since the aggressor is a fraternal Arab country and the subject of aggression is another Arab country. Until this morning, according to my information, none of the Kuwaiti citizens responded to the provisional government's appeal for them to return to work in Kuwait and to reopen the markets and banks. Also according to my information, which is little, there are still some Kuwaiti pockets of resistance. In addition, a large number of Kuwaitis and Arab brothers continue to take shelter in Saudi Arabia, which has decided to accommodate and host these citizens at its own expense, even if they do not carry passports. A drivers licence or identity card will suffice for them to receive accommodation in schools and hotels, whether in al-Khafji, Hafr al-Batin, Jubayl, or in the eastern region in general. However, there is optimism, particularly among the Kuwaiti circles, that the situation will be brought back to normal, in view of the world's stand condemning the Iraqi invasion and, which is very important, as a result of the Kuwaiti people's loyalty, both inside and outside Kuwait, to the legitimate leadership under Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and the government led by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah.

[Anwar] Regarding the internal situation in Kuwait, does your information show that the people returned to work today in response to the appeals?

[Shihri] As I have already said, the appeal was made by the so-called provisional free Kuwait government. Although it is difficult to get through to Kuwait from here, I received calls from inside Kuwait to the effect that none of the employees has responded to the appeal, none of them has gone to their offices or banks. The banks were subjected to some looting and plundering by the Iraqi popular army, as were the automobile showrooms, particularly in the al-Rayy street, which belong to well-known Kuwaiti families, such as al-Ghanim and [word indistinct] families. There is almost no life in the streets; everyone is at home. So there was no response to the appeals, according to my information.

[Anwar] The foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] are currently meeting. What is the purpose of this meeting at present?

[Shihri] Not all the foreign ministers have arrived yet. The Qatari foreign minister is due to arrive shortly. To my knowledge, the meeting will start at 1500, Saudi time. The conferees will review the stands of the various countries, those who expressed themselves and those who remained silent. I think they will also discuss the need to undertake further diplomatic activity with the various countries to put more pressure on Iraq to compel it to withdraw its occupation troops from all Kuwaiti territory. [passage omitted]

[Anwar] This brings us to the U.S. defense secretary's visit to Saudi Arabia and his talks with the Saudi officials. Could you tell us the most important results of these talks?

[Shihri] The U.S. defense secretary left Jeddah a short while ago. No announcement was made on his talks and no official statement was issued, so far, of course. However, it is supposed that the United States renewed its support for the Gulf countries and reiterated its eagerness to ensure free navigation, and thus to allow the flow of oil supplies safely to the West and the United States. As you know, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia does not seek to, or in my view cannot, give bases or facilities to any foreign country. On the contrary, it is eager to spare the region any deterioration or foreign intervention. But it seems that the Iraqi leadership's practices will lead to a regrettable deterioration in the region, and thus, the entry of foreign troops in the Gulf.

Qatar

Iran's Velayati Meets With Heir Apparent

JN0708113790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Doha, 7 Aug (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, received Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian foreign minister, today.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed developments in the current situation in the region and relations between the two fraternal countries.

Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ahmad 'Abdallah Al Mahmud and Iranian Ambassador in Doha Nassrolah Mirza'i attended the meeting.

Delivers Message to Amir

LD0708113290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, after visiting Oman, arrived today in Doha, the capital of Qatar. He immediately met with Shaykh Khalifah al-Thani, the amir of Qatar and delivered to him President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's message concerning the situation in the region and the attack of the Iraqi regime's forces against Kuwait.

In this meeting our country's foreign minister referred to the aggression by the Iraqi regime against Kuwait and said: Nowadays, these moves have been abolished [mansukh] and condemned. He stressed respect for territorial integrity, independence, and the national sovereignty of all countries, which should be carefully observed as a principle, and said that the Iraqi regime should withdraw from Kuwait unconditionally and return to its own borders.

Velayati referred to the Islamic Republic of Iran's profound belief in the need for the establishment of stability and tranquility in the Persian Gulf and said: We all have to try to build the future of the region on the basis of cooperation and understanding, and the countries of the Persian Gulf region should not permit any one to commit injustice and aggression.

Shaykh Khalifh Bin-Hamad al-Thani, the amir of Qatar, in this meeting also expressed thanks for the message of our country's president and for the presence of the Iranian delegation to Qatar, and emphasized the profound relations that exist between his country and Iran based on good neighborliness and friendship. Regarding the Iraqi regime's aggression against Kuwait, he said the Iraqi action is a big tragedy. The amir of Qatar then expresed support for the rule of the Amir of Kuwait and profoundly thanked the Islamic Republic of Iran's decisive stance vis-a-vis the occupation of Kuwait.

Comments on Developments

NC0808095790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr. Velayati met the Qatari heir apparent, Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, and held talks with him. In this meeting, our foreign minister explained the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance on the developments in the region and said: During recent years, we strove to acquaint our neighbors with the nature of the Iraqi regime; however, then the neighboring countries refused to believe that of which they have now become certain.

Stressing the fact that we support the territorial integrity and independence of the countries in the region, Mr. Velayati added: We, you, and other friends in the region should be side by side in the face of tribulations and straitened circumstances. He said: The nature of stances in periods of hardship indicates how people think and to what extent they adhere to their principles.

During this meeting, the Qatari heir apparent expressed his gratitude for the concise and decisive stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the events in the region, and said: Your stance on the occupation of Kuwait clearly manifests the Islamic Republic of Iran's sincere stance.

He added: This stance has belied the propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran for the past few years, and most of the Islamic and Arab countries have been inspired with the boldness to adopt stances against the aggressor.

The Qatari heir apparent elaborated: On the basis of the adoption of this stance, those who considered Arabs and Iranians enemies have become aware of the fallacy of this.

At the end of this meeting, the Qatari heir apparent emphasized the need to broaden cooperation between the countries in the southern part of the Persian Gulf and the Islamic Republic of Iran and announced his country's willingness in this regard.

Our foreign minister also met his Qatari counterpart yesterday and discussed ways and means for expanding bilateral and regional cooperation.

Press Urges Iraqi Withdrawal From Kuwait

JN0608115290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Manama, 6 Aug (WAKH)—[passage omitted] The Qatari newspapers today continue to comment on developments in Kuwait as well as on Arab and international consultations and contacts.

The newspaper AL-RAYAH calls for redoubled efforts and intensified Arab and international contacts and efforts to find a solution to the crisis in Kuwait and the region.

AL-RAYAH urges Arabs to find a solution to the current situation away from any peripheral differences that might sap the Arab nation's resources for many years to come.

The paper expresses optimism about the possibility that an end and a solution to the current crisis in the region will be found despite the difficulties involved.

The paper AL-'ARAB hopes the Arab world will be able to contain the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait and will work to resolve it. The paper also says that this crisis has increased problems and distress in the Arab arena.

The paper states that what happened raises many questions at a time when it thought a stage of Arab solidarity had begun and that the files of disputes and conflicts had been closed and burned.

The English-language paper GULF TIMES says that only the Kuwaiti people must decide their destiny and future, and that the legitimate Kuwaiti government under His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad should return in view of the fact that this is the demand of the Kuwaiti people who alone are entitled to decide their political system.

The paper urges the two parties to the conflict to return to the negotiating table. It calls for the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait in order to preserve Arab solidarity. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

President Receives Thatcher, Gorbachev Messages

JN0808084790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0500 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 Aug (WAKH)—United Arab Emirates [UAE] President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, has received a message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, dealing with developments in the situation in the region. Soviet Ambassador to the UAE Feliks Fedotov delivered the message when his highness received him here last night.

His highness also received a message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, dealing with developments in the region. British Ambassador to the UAE Graham Stewart delivered the message.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan also received a telephone call from Turkish President Turgut Ozal. During the call, the two leaders exchanged opinions about current developments in the region and related international efforts.

Yemen

President Calls Bush, Mitterrand on Crisis

JN0808065490 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] In telephone calls with U.S. President George Bush and French President Francois Mitterrand yesterday, brother Lieutenant General President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih expressed our country's serious concern over the grave escalation of the situation arising from the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait following the UN Security Council resolution imposing immediate comprehensive sanctions on Iraq. He stressed to the two presidents that the immediate implementation of this resolution does not give a chance to Arab efforts to settle the crisis peacefully, including the efforts exerted by our country.

The president stressed that our country will continue to try to contain the crisis. However, he said that this means that others must give a chance to these efforts and not take hasty measures to implement the UN Security Council resolution.

Presidents George Bush and Francois Mitterrand expressed their appreciation for the brother president's interest in the stability of peace and security in the region.

Salih, Al-Bid Return to Sanaa From Arab Tour

JN0508175590 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Presidential Council chairman—accompanied by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Presidential Council vice chairman—returned, with God's care, to Sanaa at 1430 today following a short tour of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt during which he met with his brothers President Saddam Husayn, the custodian of the two holy mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. [passage omitted]

Salih Chairs Meeting on Gulf Crisis

JN0808073090 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, and brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council, chaired a meeting of the Defense Ministry and General Staff Council. The meeting was attended by the brothers the foreign minister and the interior and security minister.

During the meeting, a review was held of several military and security issues, developments in the regional and Arab arenas, and the threats posed to the pan-Arab security by foreign forces, which have used the crisis between the brothers in Iraq and Kuwait as a pretext to intervene in the region's affairs and to carry out hostile schemes against the Arab nation. [passage indistinct] foreign intervention in the region in a way to safeguard its security and stability.

Salih in Hospital for 'Medical Checkup'

JN0608122990 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, has been admitted into a hospital in the capital for a medical checkup.

Iraqi Envoy Calls on Salih, Gives Message

JN0608141190 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, received in his office this morning brother Sa'di Mahdi Salih, speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly. He gave the brother chairman a letter from his brother President Saddam Husayn of the Iraqi Republic on Gulf developments, the progress of the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from sisterly Kuwait, and Arab moves to defuse the crisis within the bounds of the Arab family so as to keep foreign involvement at bay.

The Iraqi official conveyed the Iraqi leadership's appreciation for our country's efforts to contain the crisis, and chairman Salih gave him a letter to his brother President Saddam Husayn.

The Iraqi official has since left Sanaa.

Council Urges Iraqi Withdrawal, Arab Solution

JN0808053790 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] During a meeting under brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, and in the presence [passage indistinct] deputy prime minister for defense and security affairs; ministers of oil and mineral resources, defense, and information; and the chief of staff; the Presidential Council reviewed latest developments in the Arab Gulf region and the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait in light of the recent developments in the region.

The Council was briefed on the results of brother Lt. Gen 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's contacts with his brothers the Arab kings and presidents, and the telephone contacts he held yesterday with U.S. President George Bush and French President Francois Mitterrand.

The Council stressed the importance of continuing the Yemeni leadership's efforts to contain and settle the crisis within the Arab family, and to avoid any developments that would give justifications to foreign intervention, which would affect security and stability in the region. The Council also stressed the need for continuing the Iraqi forces' withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory, and for securing the appropriate circumstances to settle the problems peacefully through negotiations between Arab brothers.

'Free Kuwait' Appeals to 'Return to the Homeland'

JN0808154790 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Call issued by the provisional free Kuwait government to the Iraqi leadership on 8 August—read by announcer]

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Work righteousness; soon will God observe your work, and his apostle, and the believers. [Koranic verse]

Honorable citizens of Kuwait, dear kinfolk in great Iraq, O sons of the glorious Arab nation: When the uprising in Kuwait took place on 11 Muharram [1411 Hegira], corresponding to 2 August, the objective of this uprising was not simply to remove a regime, although it was a corrupt agent regime, and to replace it with a new national system. The objective from the beginning was a great, historic goal, a dear pan-Arab goal, through which we would comprehensively, eternally and radically rectify what colonialism had imposed on our country.

Dear brothers, the crystal-clear historic fact is that Kuwait is a part of Iraq. Its people are Iraqis, and throughout their history they drank the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers; they grew up on the shores of Shatt al-'Arab. The colonialism that partitioned the Arab homeland to secure itself a foothold in the land of the Arabs, exploit their resources, and weaken them forever is what created an artificial entity called the State of Kuwait. It set up a group of its old servants from the Al Sabah family as rulers, to be their agents in this dear part of Iraq, to implement their goals and schemes, and to collaborate with them over our dear homeland, Iraq, so that it and the Arab nation would remain weak in the face of any moves against it and would continue to implement the Zionist settlement scheme in Palestine and the whole Arab land.

Prompted by our deep-seated faith in unity and belief that supreme pan-Arab interests take precedence over all other considerations and for the sake of beloved Palestine and holy Jerusalem, which will only be returned to its owners when the banners of Arabism and unity wave high and when higher pan-Arab interests take priority over selfishness and parochial interests—to advance these lofty objectives for which many martyrs have died in the land of Arabism and for which Arab blood has been shed in Palestine—the provisional free Kuwait government has decided to appeal to the kinfolk of Iraq—the valiant men of al-Qadisiyah, the honorable, generous, chivalrous guards of the eastern gateway of the Arab homeland, led by the knight of the Arabs and the leader of their march, the hero leader President Field Marshal Saddam Husayn—to approve the return of the sons to their family, the return of Kuwait to great Iraq, the motherland, and to achieve the complete merger and unity between Kuwait and Iraq. In this way, the hero Saddam Husayn will be our leader and the leader of our march in his capacity as the president of the Republic of Iraq, just as he is the chairman of the Revolution Command Council.

Our brothers in proud Iraq: This is our appeal and decision, the decision to return to the homeland, the decision and appeal to dissipate darkness and usher in the era of unity and hope. We look to your decision and your heed to our call so the festival can be complete and jubilation may spread throughout Iraq and the land of Arabism. We have relied on God; let the faithful put their trust in God. Having discharged the duty and delivered our the trust, we place ourselves at the disposal the leader President Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, the president of the Republic of Iraq, chairman of the Revolution Command Council, and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, to serve the new march in whatever capacity he decides.

[Signed] Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali, prime minister, defense minister, and acting interior minister [passage omitted]

[Dated] 17 Muharram 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 8 August 1990, Kuwait

Gulf Sources Say Oil Exports Halted

NC0808122490 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Oil sources in the Arab Gulf reported today that Iraqi crude oil exports stopped completely today after Turkey closed the Iraqi pipeline which passes through its territory and in view of the fact that the Iraqi oil which is transported through Saudi territory was not exported.

The sources added that during the past week no oil was exported from al-Bakr port on the northern shore of the Gulf. The sources noted that no quantities of [Iraqi] oil are expected to be exported from the Saudi ports on Friday, in light of the embargo imposed as a result of the sanctions approved by the UN Security Council on Baghdad.

Troops Block Jordan-Bound Foreigners 8 Aug

AU0808100090 Paris AFP in English 0947 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Rome, Aug 8 (AFP)—Iraqi troops held up and turned back a convoy of foreigners heading Tuesday from Baghdad to the Jordan border, the Italian news agency ANSA said in a report Wednesday.

Four Italians were in the convoy of about ten cars. The foreigners had been travelling for about four hours when they were stopped by Iraqi soldiers and told to go back to Baghdad, according to the report which cited Italian diplomats in Amman.

The four Italians telephoned to their employers, a firm in Brescia near Milan, when they got back to the Sheraton Hotel in the Iraqi capital.

The Amman diplomatic sources said the travellers set off on the strength of assertions by Jordanian officials who maintained that the border between Jordan and Iraq had been opened for foreigners stranded in Iraq by the Iraq-Kuwait crisis.

French Citizens Unable To Leave Baghdad Hotel

LD0708203190 Paris Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Gulf situation remains very confused; people are wondering in particular about the fate reserved for the Western nationals in Kuwait city and Baghdad. Today the French charge d'affaires in Baghdad met the 26 French nationals held in a hotel in the capital. They are in good health but cannot leave their hotel. Thirty-nine Americans are also reported to be held at a hotel in Baghdad.

Ambassador in Greece Denies Hostages Taken

NC0708200290 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1830 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Iraqi Ambassador in Athens Fattah al-Khazraji said today that his country is not holding hostages either in Baghdad or in Kuwait and that all foreigners are free to leave the Emirate by road through Jordan or Turkey.

In a news conference in Athens, Iraqi Ambassador al-Fattah said that a popular revolution has taken place in Kuwait against a royal regime that served foreign interests and that the new Kuwaiti Government asked for protection from Iraq, which then intervened. The Iraqi ambassador said that his country's troops began to withdraw from Kuwait on Sunday and that the delay is due to threats from the United States.

His country, he said, will in no case attack Saudi Arabia and the ambassador denied that Iraqi troops are amassing at the border. He also mentioned that the UN Security Council resolution was passed under pressure from the United States and claimed that in Iraq's opinion no country will comply with this resolution.

British Short-Term Visa Holders Can Leave

LD0708195190 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1850 GMT 7 Aug 90

[by correspondents Chris Moncrieff, Teilo Colley, and Ben Preston]

[Text] Britons trapped in Iraq in the confusing aftermath of the invasion of Kuwait will be allowed to come home, the Foreign Office confirmed tonight. But Iraq's offer applies only to Britons with short-term visas, like businessmen and tourists, and not to those resident in the country.

Claims by Iraq that other Britons caught up in Kuwait could also leave had not been confirmed, added the Foreign Office.

"We are still trying to get confirmation of this," said a spokesman tonight.

Those allowed to leave will probably make their departure via Jordan, which has told the Foreign Office it will be happy to receive people and give them visas.

"We are making preparations to receive a huge number of people," said one Jordanian government official today.

Today's news eased fears among the relatives of the thousands of Britons trapped in the area.

They include 58 bussed into the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, after being stranded in Kuwait when their British Airways flight landed there in the middle of the invasion.

A total of 63 Britons were among the 367 passengers aboard the flight but tonight the Foreign Office said it could account for only 58 of them in Baghdad, where 34 British soldiers and an oilman were also being held.

The Foreign Office said it was inquiring whether the passengers came into the category of those allowed to leave without acquiring a separate exist visa.

The softening of Iraq's stance today came shortly after the country's ambassador to Greece insisted that no foreigners were being held hostage in Baghdad or Kuwait.

"If there are any foreigners in Kuwait who wish to leave they can do so by land from Iraq through Turkey or Jordan," said Mr Abdel Fatah al-Khereji.

But an ominous note was sounded by Kuwait's ambassador in London, who warned that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn would select a number of foreigners in both countries to use as a bargaining counter.

"He will choose some to keep," said Mr Ghazi al-Rayyis "He can't afford to keep 5,000 or 10,000 hostages. He will keep Americans, Europeans, whatever nationalities he thinks are valuable.

"Maybe he will behave like anyone who hijacks a plane. He has hijacked a country."

Embassy Says Troops Kept 'Strict Discipline'

JN0708221590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Tunis, 7 Aug (INA)—The Iraqi Embassy in Tunis has refuted all news and rumors released by anti-Iraqi news media and described these media as beneficiaries of the defunct Kuwaiti regime.

In a statement issued today, the embassy said the campaigns against Iraq are aimed at tarnishing its international image through rumors fabricated by frenzied sources affiliated with the defunct regime.

The statement said that during their presence on Kuwaiti territory to back up Kuwait's free uprising that overthrew the former regime, Iraqi forces maintained strict discipline when dealing with Kuwaiti, Arab, and foreign citizens. All correspondents of foreign news agencies, including those known for their enmity to Iraq, bore witness to this.

The statement warned against the degeneration of the professional journalistic conscience by reliance on false rumors by anti-Arab news media. It also warned against falling into the trap of those quarters, which wish evil on all Arabs everywhere.

The statement calls attention to the fact that the sources of these poisonous rumors are based outside Kuwait. They are up to their ears in corruption and have been unaware of what is happening in Kuwait since the former regime was toppled. They resorted to lies and fabrications through news media to serve known objectives.

Ibrahim Discusses 'Brotherly' Ties With Egypt

JN0708221790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1922 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, returned to Baghdad this evening after a brief visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. During the visit he met with Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and discussed with him the brotherly relations between the two sisterly countries, as well as the developments in the Arab arena.

'Ala' 'Ali Meets With Government Officials

'Izzat Ibrahim

JN0708132590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1306 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], held a closed meeting with Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali, prime minister of the provisional free Kuwaiti government. They discussed the future relationship between Iraq and Kuwait and current issues.

Saddam Husayn

JN0708134090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 August (INA)—President Saddam Husayn this morning received Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali, prime minister of the provisional free Kuwait government.

Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali expressed the most grateful thanks and appreciation to President Saddam Husayn and the heroic Iraqi Armed Forces, al-Qadisiyah knights, for the help glorious Iraq gave to their kinfolk in Kuwait after the blessed uprising on 2 August.

Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali affirmed that toppling the regime of corruption and agents, which was set up by the colonialists in Kuwait, was the dear hope of all the free people of Kuwait—a hope they have been aspiring to for the past decades. These historic moments have come, thanks be to God.

Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali affirmed that Kuwait and Iraq have one destiny and state. Therefore, it was natural that from the very first moments of the uprising, we turned to our kinfolk in Iraq for help, especially to protect us against the possibilities of foreign aggression, which was the shield behind which the al-Sabah family and their mercenaries were protecting themselves.

President Saddam Husayn hailed Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali and his brothers, the courageous heroes who brought Kuwait back to its pure national and pan-Arab reality as it has been throughout history. He wished him and the brothers success in their task. He also affirmed to Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali that Iraq will very firmly confront any imperialist Zionist attempt from whatever side it might come from to confront the uprising in Kuwait and harm the proud Arab land. These forces know very well what it means when the Iraqi people and their Armed Forces and leadership are determined to struggle and be valiant.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC]; RCC members Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization.

Ramadan Receives Turkish Ambassador in Baghdad

JN0708111990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1059 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received Turkish ambassador Sonmez Koksal in Baghdad today.

During the meeting the two sides discussed relations between Iraq and Turkey and means of promoting them in a way that would achieve mutual benefit for the two neighboring countries.

Diplomats in Cairo Speculate on 'Aziz 'Absence'

AU0808124190 Belgrade TANJUG in Serbo-Croatian 1042 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (TANJUG)—There is widespread belief in diplomatic circles in Cairo that Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi foreign minister, has been removed [uklonjen] from the political hierarchy. Diplomats mention that the absence of Tariq 'Aziz, the closest and long-term associate of President Saddam Husayn, has been noticed since the Gulf crisis began.

Particularly noticeable was his absence at the extraordinary ministerial meeting of the Arab League in Cairo last Thursday. The same sources claim that logically Tariq 'Aziz would be the person to lead the Bagdad's diplomatic action in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia—ven before Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

Instead, the Iraqi president's chief negotiator was 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council of Iraq. Diplomats stressed today that Baghdad, probably with the intention of withholding this news from the public, published a photograph of Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz—a photograph which, according to the same sources, predates the Kuwaiti crisis.

The majority of diplomats in Cairo think that Tariq 'Aziz has been executed. This is linked to reports of the execution of 120 Iraqi officers on the eve of the attack on Kuwait. A similar story was recently released in Rome by the Kuwaiti ambassador in Italy, inviting journalists to check speculation about the fate of Tariq 'Aziz.

Saddam Husayn Issues 'Victory' Day Message

JN0708193290 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug

[Message from President Saddam Husayn "on the occasion of the great victory day on 8 August 1988"—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

O great Iraqi people, o sons of the glorious Arab nation: On 8 August 1988 matters were settled after eight years of dueling. That day was the day of days, and the communique that was issued on that day was the communique of communiques. That day was truly the day of days because every day, beginning with the first day in the book of the second al-Qadisiyah that began on 4 September 1980 and ending with the last day of that eternal and great book of our people's life that preceded the day of days on 7 August 1988, has a share in the day of 8 August 1988.

The communique broadcast on 8 August was the communique of communiques because every communique issued from 4 September 1980 to 7 August 1988 is a vital part of the fruits of the record from which the banner of victory was raised high on 8 August 1988. From this we can see that the peoples' record and history cannot exist without the accumulation of repeated sacrifices, wisdom, bravery, patient work, and true struggle to God's satisfaction. By this we can see that the day of days began from the first day of the record and that the communique of communiques was written in the first communique of the second al-Qadisiyah.

The day of days gives lessons to those who heed them, lessons whose meanings and dimensions go beyond the national borders to affect the entire nation and humanity at large. There are people who do not benefit from other people's lessons and there are those who do benefit. All this is determined by the fact that some leaders draw lessons in accordance with the patriotic and national aspects of human wisdom and some others learn the lessons they wish—but not the truth as it is.

We do not like lessons outside the course of life, except those affiliated with God. We do not give reason the full right to interpret things independently from the eye or give the eye the full right apart from reason. The two should cooperate in concrete and abstract matters. The blood of our martyrs has turned into a permanent torch along our people's path toward progress and a better life. The edifice of progress is rising with the passing of every day since 8 August 1988, and its foundation is becoming stronger on the basis of righteousness and justice. Mistakes in its course are being dealt with on the basis of the insistence of the people, who have defended rights and justice and offered sacrifices for them. Thus, the people deserve a life that is not disturbed by evil intentions, and the torch lit by the martyrs' blood that represents virtue and national and pan-Arab dignity should not be extinguished by the attempts of nonpatriots, nonnationalists, and nonhumanitarians.

Therefore, the day of days and the communique of communiques became not the end of a stage in the life of the Iraqis and the nation, but the serious beginning of a life of honor and triumph in all walks of life—in theory and practice—as well as in the arena of the battlefield whenever the heat rises.

Therefore, we have the right and it is our duty to say that the day of the call, the second of this month, August, in this year, is the legitimate newborn child of 8 August 1988. In fact, this is the only way to deal with these despicable Croesuses who relished stealing the part to harm the whole, who relished possession to destroy devotion, and who were guided by the foreigner instead of being guided by virtuous standards, principles of pan-Arabism, and the creed of humanitarianism in relations between the sons of the same people and nation. The second of August was a day bursting with these meanings, in the same way it is the legitimate newborn child of the struggle, patience, and perseverence of the Kuwaiti people, which was crowned by revolutionary action on that immortal day.

The newborn child was born of a legitimate father and an immaculate mother. It will be a loyal son to the Kuwaitis, Iraqis, and all the Arabs. Greetings to the makers of the second of August, whose efforts God has blessed. They have achieved one of the brightest, most promising, and most principled national and pan-Arab acts.

At a time when the second of August arrived to be the legitimate newborn son of the second Qadisiyah and its people—and with God's help, it will also be a loyal son—it and its consequences shall be the beginning of a new, lofty, and rising stage in which virtue will spread throughout the Arab homeland in the coming days and profanity, treachery, betrayal, meanness, and subservience to the foreigner will retreat from it. Many of the goals of the Arabs will move closer after some believed they were moving away from their places in the horizon. New suns and moons will shine; stars will glitter; light will expel darkness; and lunar and solar eclipses will withdraw from the skies of Iraq and the Arab world.

How can that be?

When the sun of the Arabs set in its faraway horizon, after Baghdad's eye was put out and its mind was ruined by the actions and rule of the foreigner, a pitch-black darkness prevailed throughout the Arab world, with the exception of local cases that used to emerge here and there and every now and then under certain symptoms and whose indications were not wholly pan-Arab. The Arabs had no sun, moon, or stars to guide them to any road with a glimmer of hope.

When they saw before them the opportunity to be liberated from the darkness of the Ottoman era, and the virtuous and patriotic Arabs determined to change the image of the state of the Arabs, they fell into the claws of the forces of the age as soon as they took their first step. At a time when some foreign rulers were overthrown by Arab rulers to start with—and liberation revolutions and movements took place after the first Arab revolution to replace what was left with local, national, or pan-Arab alternatives—the partition and dispersion of the factors of power and capability throughout various regions retained a weak Arab homeland—weak individuals, actions, and aspirations. In this condition, every time the Arab took a step forward he took two steps back, or a bit more or a bit less than that step, and was moved further away from the position he was supposed to be in.

The malicious Westerners, while partitioning the Arab homeland, intentionally multiplied the number of countries with the result that the Arab nation could not achieve the integration needed to realize its full capability. In this way, they also fragmented capabilities. While fragmenting the Arab homeland, they intentionally distanced the majority of the population density and areas of cultural depth from riches and their sources, something new to the life of Arabs. This became one of the most dangerous results of partition and a fatal wedge in Arab relations.

[Text] The wealth centered in one place, in the hands of a minority lacking in cultural depth or, more accurately, having no record of cultural depth. On the other hand, cultural depth and population density centered in a place remote from the sources of the new wealth, as I said. This malicious act resulted in the minority becoming so corrupt that it was cut off from its nation. It stopped mentioning this nation, except in lip service and on some ceremonial occasions. The wealth in the hands of this minority did not come as a result of legitimate hard work. The overwhelming majority of the nation, which was living away from the sources of wealth and enduring a major part of its negative impact on its life in the social, psychological, cultural, military, and political spheres, suffered a weakness that, if not overcome, could not allow this majority to play a vital and effective role in the life of the nation.

The authority of the honorable national and pan-Arab majority and its leading influence on the Arab life was absent and was replaced by the authority of the corrupt minority, which is connected with the foreigner. As a result, the nation was hit right between the eyes, and the damage it suffered was no less in its consequences than direct foreign rule. Indeed, at some stages of the nation's life direct foreign rule awakened—through reaction—the national and pan-Arab awareness and crystallized the factors of spiritual upsurge in which the nation invoked its genuine values from the depths of its culture.

But the nation's situation before 2 August this year was fatal to its soul and body. One could not but feel its descent into the abyss. This situation would rob rulers and people of their courage, whether among the corrupt wealthy minority or among the overwhelming majority of the poor Arabs. It would also block the capable collective efforts in the two places, make the people in both places dependent on foreigners in one way or another, and seriously upset the social life in both places. Moreover, efforts toward true interaction with the laws of the age would become absent or weak, and, consequently, the process of formulating these laws in a national and pan-Arab manner would be hindered in both places. Furthermore, the nation—in its cultural sense, collective capability, and joint action—would become lacking in both areas. The nation will return to its rightful position only through real struggle and jihad to place the wealth of the nation in the service of its noble objectives so that the opinion of the majority would become prevalent, capable and honest, and the opinion of the minority will be respected when it is honest. Its conduct, then, will be remote from decay and corruption.

Two August has come as a very violent response to the harm that the foreigner had wanted to perpetrate against Iraq and the nation. The Croesus of Kuwait and his aides became the obedient, humiliated, and treacherous dependents of that foreigner. Instead of honoring its commitments toward the stem, the dead branch began stabbing the stem with a poisonous dagger in the back so that it might fall dead beside the dead branch and so that the living stem would not try to awaken the dead branch. [sentence as heard] What took place on 2 August was inevitable so that death might not prevail over life, so that those who were capable of ascending to the peak would not be brought down to the abysmal precipice, so that corruption and remoteness from God would not spread to the majority as a result of need and poverty after the corrupt minority had distanced itself from God, values, books, and disciples. Honor will be kept in Mesopotamia so that Iraq will continue to be the pride of the Arabs, their protector, and their model of noble values, and so that Kuwait will join the march of its nation.

The lowly wanted and planned to harm the free women of Iraq, as they had done to free Arab women in other places. But their calculations went wrong because they did not know that we prefer death to this and that we cannot sleep without putting out the eyes of those who encroach upon Iraqi and Arab and Islamic values. Death is better than humiliation and subordination to the foreigner.

This was the 8th of August 1988, the day of days, in which the communique of all communiques was issued, declaring the great victory. It will be the fountainhead of all the sweet days in the life of the Arabs, and their compassionate mother, as was the day of 2 August this year.

Glory to the martyrs; glory to the free, living people; God is great; and accursed be the lowly.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, 16 Muharram, 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 7 August 1990.

Baghdad Mandates PLO Mediation in Kuwait Crisis

LD0708132990 Hamburg DPA in German 1249 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), has received from Baghdad a mandate to mediate in the conflict over Kuwait and intends to deploy all its connections in order to avoid military intervention "from abroad." This was stated by 'Abdallah al-Frangi, former PLO representative in Bonn and member of the PLO Central Committee, in an interview with Bonn's GENERAL-ANZEIGER (Wednesday edition). PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat conferred at length with Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn in Baghdad on Sunday.

Referring to information available to him, Al-Frangi said in the interview: "The Iraqis are not going to attack Saudi Arabia," for "that would mean that the conflict would not remain confined to the Arab world." Furthermore, the Iraqi leadership "would be intelligent enough to enable a speedy departure for the foreigners detained in Baghdad, Al-Faysal said. Detaining the foreigners had not been a "clever move" by the Iraqis.

Concerning further developments, the PLO member said: "The Iraqi troops probably will have left Kuwait in a few weeks but I do not believe that Kuwait will ever again be what it once was.

Commentary Views Kuwaiti 'Interim Government'

LD0708212290 Baghdad International Service in English 2030 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Political commentary]

[Text] The new Kuwaiti cabinet was formed on Saturday [4 August] after the internal situation settled in favor of the revolution which toppled the subservient joint league [as heard] of Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. The forming of the government has silenced a (?host) of voices which have tried to cast doubt on the existence and legitimacy of the free interim government of Kuwait. These attempts are only meant at finding a pretext for intervention in the internal affairs of Kuwait to reinstate the deposed al-Sabah regime.

(?however the) revolutionaries understood Iraq's image as the Arab country which responded to a call for help from the Kuwaiti people who felt that the al-Sabah regime had gone too far in its plundering of the great wealth of Kuwait.

The former regime in Kuwait made huge investment not in the Arab world, where many countries badly need such investment, but in foreign countries. The former rulers of Kuwait were however always boasting of their national stance whenever they would reluctantly give meager allowance to an Arab country. This anti-Arab attitude by the former regime made it a (?coup of subversion) aimed at striking hard at the economic interest of countries in the region, mainly Iraq, which over eight years of the Gulf war fought in defense of its territory and that of Kuwait against foreign invasion.

The big noise made by [words indistinct] of the Arabs over Iraq's principled stand in support of the people of Kuwait and their revolution is an expression of the frustration the enemies have felt because of the ousting of the al-Sabah regime for drawing the anti-Iraq campaign aimed at halting the country's economic and technological progress and which has been going on for some time now.

Iraq has been aware of the fact that the presence of Iraqi troops in Kuwait might give a pretext for foreign intervention and that is why Iraq made it clear right from the beginning that its troops would pull out once the situation was normal in the Arab Gulf country and when the interim free government of Kuwait asked Iraq to do so, and this is what Iraq did, as it started a troop withdrawal on Sunday. In fact the pullout of Iraqi troops from Kuwait has refuted further lies and fabrications which insinuated a possible Iraqi troop movement (?over) Saudi Arabia.

The enemies of the Arab nation are trying to create pretext to justify a military intervention in the region. However this [words indistinct] should realize that the people of Iraq and Kuwait will crush any attempt of aggression against them.

And that is the end of our political commentary from Baghdad, the broadcasting service of the Iraqi Republic.

Paper Links Al-Sabah, 'Zionist-American Design'

JN0708110590 Baghdad INA in English 0915 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, Aug. 7, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad stressed that protection of Kuwait revolution was not only an Iraqi-Kuwaiti duty but a duty of all honourable Arabs and Arab masses that chose to side with the Iraqi-Kuwaiti trench, the trench of glory, freedom and noble national principles.

A daily editorial here today warned that those getting prepared for aggression on Iraq and harming the revolution of Kuwait should reconsider that more than once and think of the dangerous consequences that would entail any aggressive act.

The daily said that while support of popular masses to the revolution in Kuwait was ascending and also backing the Iraqi brave attitude in extending help to it, new and surprising realities were being uncovered daily on the conspiratorial role performed by the outgoing Kuwaiti regime, realities about the links and the close ties of that regime with the Zionist and imperialist circles and its open hostility to the Arab nation and its issues of destiny.

Within this course, the daily said that the Zionst MA'ARIV newspaper yesterday published new facts about al-Sabah family's financing of projects for promoting weapons in Israel in return for the agreement of the Zionist lobby in Washington to supply Kuwait with American weapons.

The Zionist paper stressed that the entombed regime of al-Sabah had actually deposited the funds which America had agreed to spend for the interest of the Zionist entity.

The Iraqi paper said that this act clearly uncovers the brutal crimes and treason committed by al-Sabah family against the Arab nation within the frame of its designed role for implementing the Zionist-American design.

The Iraqi paper said that feverish statements and threats aired by Zionist and American quarters were after paving the way and creating the justifications for intervention in the affairs of the region and justifying aggression on Iraq.

It stressed that such moves would not affect the national and principled role of Iraq and would not force it to back down from extending backing and support to the revolution of Kuwait.

The paper quoted the president yesterday statements that Iraq is capable of protecting its sovereignty, interests and rights and is ready to sacrifice against any threats of pressures.

Another Iraqi paper AL-'IRAQ stressed that what harms the security of Kuwait harms the security of Iraq and that what harms the security of Iraq harms the security of Kuwait and the entire Arab nation.

A daily editorial said that what has taken place in Kuwait was a genuine free national revolution representing an internal affair for Kuwait and its people which foreign circles have nothing to do with.

It said that Iraq had performed its noble national duty in supporting this revolution and protecting it against aggression and external intervention and said that it was a historic decision to withdraw its armed troops from the Kuwaiti territories an evidence to Iraq's respect to the Kuwaiti options and keenness that the free Interim Government of Kuwait would perform its independent policies and national tasks with full independence.

The Iraqi paper said that Zionist and imperialist feverish threats would only make Iraq more vigilant and aware in the capability of defending and preserving Kuwait against any external danger and that that should be understood by the enemies especially Iraq's direct and decisive reply.

It affirmed that Iraq which came out victorious in the eight year war would not be shaken by threats or terrorised by acts of cheap blackmail and that Iraq today is capable of confronting all vicious threats led by the United States, the well-known state in the acts of piracy and assassination of the will of peoples and attempts to keep Arab capabilities under its hegemony and custodianship.

The Iraqi paper said that Iraq in supporting the revolution of Kuwait had performed a glorious national duty since the march of national struggle and issues of national liberation were the basic factors in Arab relations and represent the solid base for pan-Arab security and the ascending Arab march.

It said that the Arabs should act in the same way Iraq had made in times of difficulties and the decisive battles of destiny for the sake of maintaining national independence and deterring dangers, challenges and evil threats and interventions.

Ediorial Attacks 'Ruthless' Imperialist Campaign

JN0808102190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH says that Iraq and its brave Armed Forces, backed by the sons of our people in Iraq and Kuwait, are ready for anyone who lets himself be seduced into committing an aggression against free and proud Iraq. The newspaper, which is published by the Defense Ministry, says: From a position of strength, we reaffirm to the whole world that this ruthless campaign will be of no use to them and that no threat or fabricated measure will frighten us or affect our steadfastness.

In its editorial today on the second anniversary of the victory day, the paper explains that the wicked Westerners' calculations to divide the Arab homeland will end once and for all, thanks to our sons' awareness—an awareness that guides our people's steps in Iraq and Kuwait toward eliminating the symbols of the failed imperialist agents.

AL-QADISIYAH says rancorous imperialism's escalation against Iraq and Kuwait represents the defeat of imperialist plans to humiliate the Arab nation, to dissipate its potential, and to dominate it from behind the scenes of imperialist darkness. [passage omitted]

It is not unusual for the heroic Iraqi Army to derive its capability from its deep faith in Arab destiny and to defend every pan-Arab action to restore the Arab nation's proper course.

The paper continues: Therefore, the Iraqi Armed Forces displayed their capability and principles by supporting the revolution of the free men of Kuwait because they believe in their pan-Arab role and their sacred duty to the sons of the one people. They did not wait for permission from anyone when the situation became worse in the minds of the al-Sabah family, who concocted wicked plots against the Iraq of glory and progress and who stabbed great Iraq as it confronted the ugliest imperialist and Zionist challenges to its progress and future.

AL-QADISIYAH also explains that the al-Sabah family monopolized Kuwait's Arab potential to meet its own mean desires at the expense of our people in Kuwait and the sons of the Arab nation. This prompted the free men of Kuwait to attack the symbols of conspiracy and treachery and to rid the Iraqi-Kuwaiti home of the despicable clique.

The paper adds: When the welfare of our people in Kuwait called for our support to consolidate the revolution and for our protection against plots and imperialist interference, our Armed Forces bravely supported the revolution and restored justice after the al-Sabah family, the symbols of selfishness and subservience, collapsed. Kuwait's revolution has become an established reality and Iraq and Kuwait now share a common situation.

Shamir Says U.S. Policy in Gulf Arouses 'Trust'

*TA0808105390 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1000 GMT 8 Aug 90*

[Report by Natan Gutman from the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem—live]

[Text] Good day to you. The meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and his team of aides on the one hand, and Richard Schifter, assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs, on the other, ended a few minutes ago. Their conversation naturally dealt mainly with the Persian Gulf issue, rather than with human rights in the territories. Prime Minister Shamir said Israel is alertly and closely following developments in the Persian Gulf.

As for U.S. handling of the situation, the prime minister lauded President Bush's actions, saying: The United States has manifested determination in its treatment of this affair, and its policy and conduct arouse the trust of the entire free world. In the conversation, the prime minister linked the situation in the Gulf to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, stating that developments there push aside all other regional problems, including Israel's conflict with the Palestinians. If there is one important lesson to be drawn from the Gulf developments, it is the great significance which should be attached in our peace initiative to negotiations with the neighboring Arab countries. The prime minister emphasized it is clear that, if the danger of war exists in the region, this is not the result of our conflict with the Palestinians, but of the conduct of several Arab countries which think that conflicts can be resolved with violence and force.

Cabinet Awaits Results of U.S. Moves in Gulf

*TA0808064690 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 8 Aug 90*

[Telephone interview with Justice Minister Dan Meridor by Gad Becker and Goni Mardor—live]

[Excerpts] [Becker] Justice Minister Dan Meridor is now on the line. Good morning, sir.

[Meridor] Good morning.

[Becker] Yesterday your colleague, Minister Ari'el Sharon, demanded that 150 intifadah leaders be deported as soon as tonight. He said that those who are incapable of coping with terrorism should go home. What do you have to say to this?

[Meridor] I am not one of those who make suggestions to the cabinet from the outside despite membership in it. This morning the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs will meet, as it does every Wednesday, and I am certain to hear Minister Sharon there. Any proposal of his will be aired in the cabinet, and I will not comment on it outside the cabinet.

[Becker] What have you to say about a step of this nature—the deportation of 150 intifadah leaders, or, as Sharon defines them, terrorist leaders?

[Meridor] We have to resort to a variety of measures, in order to bring a halt to the insane, dire acts such as those we have witnessed recently. I am referring to both the intifadah as we have come to know it, and to the murderous terror we have seen in recent days. Deportation is one of the possible measures. There are other measures, such as bringing culprits to trial. I know the security branches and the police are making a very strenuous effort, and I hope they will achieve results. [passage omitted]

[Becker] Mr. Meridor, because of the situation in Jerusalem, we have taken time to discuss that issue, and there is very little time left for reference to the events in the Gulf. I will pose this one brief question, and I will ask for a brief reply: The Americans are sending troops to Saudi Arabia; is Israel involved in what goes on there? Is it possible Israel will also lend a hand to what appears to be an international military move against Iraq?

[Meridor] The United States and Israel are exchanging information. I do not wish to go into detail on that issue. The United States is at present conducting a great struggle. We will wait and see what its results are.

U.S. Troops in Saudi Arabia Termed 'Success'

*TA0808103290 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 8 Aug 90 pp 1, 14*

[Commentary by Ron Ben-Yishay: "An Impressive U.S. Success"]

[Text] Saudi Arabia's agreement to permit the deployment of U.S. soldiers on its territory is a real breakthrough for the Americans in their efforts to curtail Saddam Husayn.

The moment the Saudis agreed in principle to the U.S. presence almost limitless possibilities were presented to the Pentagon to prepare an operation against the Iraqis. The main advantage is in cutting the timetable: the 82d Airborne Division, which is part of the rapid deployment force, can take to the air and reach Saudi Arabia within 48 to 72 hours.

That is also true of U.S. Air Force F-15's and F-16's, which can arrive within 24 to 48 hours after flying directly from the United States with a transit stop in Europe and aerial refueling.

The Saudi bases, built by American engineers, were deliberately constructed with a larger capacity than that required by the relatively small Saudi army so that they could absorb U.S. aircraft and U.S. armed forces in time of crisis, such as the current one with Iraq.

The Zahran base, for instance, has empty underground hangers capable of servicing a large number of U.S. aircraft. There is also the necessary logistical foundation to operate a massive aerial force, including AWACS aircraft for command and control operational use on the battlefield. The meaning of all that is that from now on Saddam Husayn will not be able to threaten Saudi Arabia if the United States takes military action against him.

The threat is the U.S. aircraft and vessels on the aircraft carriers and in Turkey that can make direct hits on strategic targets in Iraq. An additional outcome of the Saudi agreement to an American presence is that the United States can command aerial superiority in the region, not only over Saudi Arabia but also over Kuwait and Iraq, and that will enable them to have a great deal of freedom of action and a wide range of operational possibilities.

To conclude, it can be said that in the past 24 hours the Americans have made an impressive achievement in recruiting international support for their struggle against Saddam Husayn and in showing rare determination in their decision to stop the Iraqi dictator from continuing his actions.

Saddam Husayn has already shown that he is panicking and it is possible that he might be tricked into acts of despair, such as the taking of U.S. citizens as hostages and perhaps even an attempt to preempt the Americans and invade Saudi Arabia.

Editorial Calls For Arab Solidarity on Invasion

TA0608184190 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 5 Aug 90 p 7

[Editorial: "And the Cards Were Shuffled!!"]

[Text] Intensive Arab and international moves, upheavals in Arab alliances, and unlimited new horizons in the Middle East region—all these are the outcome of Kuwait's invasion by Iraq.

On the international level, all the great countries, with the exception of the PRC, adopted an identical decision, calling on Iraq to withdraw immediately. Some of these countries decided to undertake political and economic measures against Iraq, but the international moves will not produce any results that can have an impact on the step taken by Iraq.

On the Arab level, some countries have called for an immediate Iraqi withdrawal. Among these were countries that only recently were close allies of Iraq, and others that have not had relations with Iraq for many years. Some Arab states known for their relations with the West adopted positions supportive of Iraq either publicly or implicitly.

The map of alliances, relations, and camps in the Arab world has crumbled, as if its foundations were hit by an earthquake and need to be rebuilt. Irrespective of the developments surrounding the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, this map will require new foundations, because the Arab diplomacy of the last four decades has ended irreversibly.

The Jeddah mini-summit, about which a considerable number of Arab leaders had talked, has been postponed or canceled. This means that Iraq is insisting on the need for Arab states to deal with the new reality in Kuwait and consequently to view Iraq in a different framework as of 2 August 1990. This is not within the same framework of the Iraq that was trying to unite the Arabs' words through summit conferences, last of which was the Baghdad summit conference.

During the past four decades, Arab political camps led the Arab nation to become negligible on the regional and international levels. The Arabs lost the bases of their pan-Arab security, economy, and nourishment. The great powers treated them from the angle of trusteeship and dependence. The Arab states were mere plaques carrying the names of kingdoms, emirates, and republics.

Are we on the threshold of a new Arab system compatible with the new international era born on the ruins of the cold war? We are fully confident that the answer to this question depends on the Arabs themselves. The great powers do not provide protection to anyone. The Arabs must prevent any intervention by foreign parties at this stage. Irrespective of the diplomatic results of the Arab and international moves, the Arabs must convince the world that they can handle all their problems with their own capabilities.

Rejects Foreign Intervention

TA0708092090 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 6 Aug 90 p 7

[Editorial: "A Consensus That Must Be Respected"]

[Text] U.S. President George Bush has threatened to declare war if Iraq tries to cross into Saudi territory, while Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens has stated that the introduction of Iraqi forces into Jordan will force Israel to retaliate. The countries of the Western world continue to issue threats and warn about imposing economic sanctions. Moreover, some U.S. officials have affirmed that Washington is studying all options, including the military option, in the region.

Talk about the Arab world is taking place in a manner suggesting that the region is regarded as paralyzed and totally impotent, and that the best way to safeguard Western interests is represented in military intervention or in imposing economic sanctions, either by one foreign country or through agreement among a number of countries.

Apparently, foreign countries which have interests in the region disregard and fail to take into account the Arab nations' wishes, aspirations, and hopes. They are accustomed to acting in such a manner. Threats to use force clearly prove the extent of contempt that the United States and other Western countries harbor for Arab states and nations.

Arab diplomatic moves are gaining momentum. Most of the Arab leaders are holding contacts, making visits, and putting forward plans. Despite the divergence in views over the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis, there is an Arab consensus to reject foreign intervention in any form.

The United States and its allies should respect this consensus and should give a chance to the admirable Arab efforts being exerted in every direction. For example, in the case of Lebanon, which has been experiencing a civil war over 15 years, all the countries of the world, including the great powers, agreed to leave Lebanon and rely on the Arab League to extricate Lebanon from its ordeal.

Naturally, we realize the difference between what is taking place in Lebanon and what is happening on Kuwait's territory. Lebanon's events contribute directly in consolidating the West's view of the Arab world as being impotent, divided, and fragmented. What is happening in Kuwait, though, upsets the political equation in the region. There is oil and the manifestation of an Arab state imposing itself as a powerful regional force.

We hope that the Arab diplomatic efforts will lead to extricating Iraq and Kuwait from the crisis. All the world's countries should support these efforts because threats to use force and hints of war are tantamount to throwing a burning matchstick into an oil well during a drilling operation.

Paper Views PLO's Refusal to Condemn Iraq

TA0708112590 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic
6 Aug 90 pp 1, 11

[Article by Hatim 'Abd-al-Qadir: "Why Did We Downplay the Condemnation Decision?"]

[Text] The PLO has never wagered on an Arab state at the expense of another, and the PLO's foreign relations have never been dictated by alternating interests and accounts of loss or gain. These relations, in their orientation, proceeded from basic and firm convictions into the channel of supreme Arab interest.

Anyone who interprets the Palestinian position in refusing to condemn Iraq during the Arab League Council meetings as being directed against Kuwait, wagering on Baghdad, and taking sides openly in favor of President Saddam Husayn is making a mistake. The Palestinian position at the Arab League was dictated neither by whims, nor interests, nor a change in the balance of forces. It was dictated by a conscious political perspective that is aware of the dimensions of the ongoing conflict. This perspective was lacking in Chedli Klibi and the Arab foreign ministers who condemned Iraq. It is not important that the Arab League condemned Iraq, what is important is for the Arab League to bear its pan-Arab responsibilities and devote its efforts to resolving the crisis, instead of being preoccupied with issuing statements and condemnations.

True, the PLO refused to condemn Iraq, but it is also true that there are basic reasons which induced the PLO to adopt this position:

—The Arab states' adoption of a decision condemning Iraq will contribute nothing toward resolving the crisis, rather on the contrary, this might contribute to fragmenting the Arab position and dragging it toward further discord and marginal disputes which do not serve the cause of ending the conflict.

—The Arab League was not established basically to distribute condemnations against this or that party, but to go further than this role and advance toward direct intervention to end the conflict or even prevent it from erupting in the first place. This is where the Arab League failed.

—The Arab states' condemnation of Iraq means pulling the Arab rug from under Iraq's feet and creating a pretext for the United States to strike at it militarily.

—The refusal by the PLO to condemn Iraq qualifies it to be involved as a mediator, in contrast to Arab states which condemned and thus gave up the opportunity to play the role of mediator. This is what president 'Arafat is doing right now.

All these reasons caused the Palestinian leadership to downplay the decision to condemn Iraq and embark on serious and effective action that has made brother Yasir 'Arafat shuttle among Arab capitals in order to find a solution to the crisis, divorced from exhausting potentials in the issue of statements, slogans, and condemnations.

Saddam Mode Seen as Overpowering Moderation

TA0708115990 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
7 Aug 90 p 9

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "Saddam Instead of 'Arafat?"]

[Text] The Likud's reaction to the world oil crisis and the sorry outcome of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait was disappointing, to put it mildly. True, the crisis was brought about by Saddam Husayn, not Shamir, but one could safely say that the prime minister was partner to it.

Washington's "strategic ally" in the Middle East is incapable of helping it in times of strategic need; therefore, it will be partly at fault if the United States now suffers a strategic fiasco far worse than Vietnam. The United States, together with President Mubarak, has long tried to advance a cautious and circumspect political process that would not only have created the possibility for Israeli-Palestinian conciliation, but would also have manifested the supremacy of U.S. diplomacy, enhanced the prestige of its main allies like Egypt, and lured the PLO into the U.S.-Egyptian area of influence. The need to promote the political process became more pressing as Saddam Husayn's Iraq developed the opposite approach and fine-honed the challenge to Egypt's policy.

Yet the Likud's position was different. Shamir maintained that "'Arafat is worse than the devil," even when not 'Arafat but well-known Palestinian figures from the territories—such as Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, Faysal al-Husayni, and Ilyas Frayj—were at issue.

Nearly a week has gone by since the invasion of Kuwait, and it now transpires that all the options we thought the Americans had still exist, but on a diminished scale. Furthermore, we may realize yet that Saddam Husayn's gamble was better calculated than we had thought, and he may win.

Saddam Husayn is too close to Saudi Arabia's oil fields to launch a military operation without setting fire to the source of world economic strength. Although Saudi Arabia is showing signs of preparation for joint military action with the United States, it is still too premature to assess how ready it will be to sacrifice several oil fields to overthrow Saddam. The military option exists, but it involves tremendous risks. An economic siege involves a double danger: if it fails, Saddam will emerge stronger by far, enjoying a sky-high status in the Arab world or; he may be able to break out of the deadly noose by making additional military advances toward Bahrain and the UAE.

The way things stand now, it looks as if Saudi Arabia itself is not interested in exacerbating the situation with Iraq. Its hesitations will herald a revolution in the fundamentals of the Arab world which cannot yet be fully evaluated. Whereas to date Saudi Arabia dictated many of the political moves in the Middle East by remote control, this time for the first time it is the one that is being threatened. Saudi Arabia is no longer an Arab superpower. President Mubarak suffered a great personal blow by falling victim to Iraq's deception and by lulling the United States, on the eve of the invasion, by arguing that Saddam had told him he would not invade Kuwait. If the Americans ever thought about preempting the dispatch of units to Kuwait, the Egyptian "mediation" aborted that.

Egypt's status, founded on values of moderation and nonintervention in others' affairs, was dealt a lethal blow for which the return of the Arab League to Cairo is no counterbalance. Everything related to the Egyptian and Saudi policy has failed, including the political process based on the intifadah in the territories. From now on, it will not be the Unified National Command of the Uprising's leaflets that will set the tone of the next actions related to the Palestinian issue, but that set by the beachfront operation of Abu-al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], Saddam Husayn's new friend.

Saddam Husayn's main complaint against Mubarak was that when he came to Washington to promote the Palestinian issue—or such Arab interest as stemming aliyah—he did not come from a position of power but from a position of beggar. The world, however, only understands and respects power. This is Saddam's philosophy, and it took Israel with the Likud at its helm to help him prove to all and sundry that he was right.

One cannot yet predict the ultimate end of the Gulf crisis. If some successful operation against Saddam is mounted, many will breathe a sigh of relief, but right now this seems unlikely. Saudi Arabia refuses to cooperate with the Americans and will not shut the oil taps. For the moment, it supports the deposed amir of Kuwait, but not for long. Its policy is to do everything to remove Saddam Husayn from the oil fields, even if that means sacrificing the ousted amir's family. After all, he is not to be taken to the gallows; he will continue to lead a comfortable life, if not in Kuwait. It will try to shoo Saddam away from the oil fields through diplomatic measures to gain time for a new deployment. It is hard to tell what that new deployment will be, but one may safely assume that it will try to divert his attention from the Gulf by involving him in the intricacies of the Palestinian problem. In order to win legitimacy as the Arab leader—Saddam's goal—he must offer a solution to that problem, which is the emblem of pan-Arab leadership. First Syria failed, then Egypt, and now it is Iraq's turn.

Saddam will not cooperate with the United States, but it will not care as long as his involvement in that dead-end issue redirects his gaze away from the oil fields. He will prefer the Europeans, who are also his arms suppliers, so that the demand for an international conference whose decisions will be binding will be backed by a million troops armed with strategic weapons and supported by a terrorist arm. 'Arafat's pledges in Cairo to renounce terrorism will be rendered meaningless. Abu-al-'Abbas opposes them, and has now been joined by our friend from the Ismailia bus attack, the Islamic Jihad's Shaykh Bayyud al-Tamimi.

The Likud rejected Mubarak and the Cairo meeting for "not being neutral," and demanded that the talks with the Palestinian delegation—which will not be held—be moved to Geneva. Yet those who rejected Mubarak and 'Arafat got Saddam Husayn and Abu-al-'Abbas instead. Saddam has already crossed the Rubicon and announced: "Take me seriously. I act on my words." Shamir thought that by pulling the well-known trick known as the Shamir plan, he could drag the political process on ad infinitum, but he was promptly informed by Saddam that the period of no peace and no war is over. Knowing the dramatis personae in Baghdad and at home, we must now prepare for the worst.

Report Says Iran Will Not Exploit Gulf Crisis

TA0808053190 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Aug 90 p A2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Elder]

[Excerpt] Iran has decided to avoid exploiting the crisis in the Persian Gulf to renew its struggle against Iraq, according to a secret report reaching Jerusalem. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani has ordered the army to avoid any actions which might be interpreted as a sign that Iran has reservations about Saddam Husayn's moves, the report said.

The Iranian army has avoided moving forces toward the Iraqi border and the West views this as a signal to Iraq that it should not fear that Tehran will exploit the international offensive against it to gain military or political achievements.

According to information which has reached Jerusalem, Iran supported Iraq's moves against Kuwait from the start because the Iranian Government also wanted to bring about an increase in oil prices and to increase its income from oil sales.

Nevertheless, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akhbar Velayati announced yesterday that his country would not agree to any Kuwaiti border changes. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Officers Said To Visit Jordan Border

TA0808084590 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 8 Aug 90 p 1

[Report by Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] Senior Iraqi army officers recently visited the Israeli-Jordanian border and viewed Israeli positions from the water line. In addition, they conducted patrols along the border. This was reported by reservists stationed on the Israeli side.

According to them, they needed no special equipment to spot officers clad in Iraqi army uniforms.

Similar reports on the tours of Iraqi officers along the Israeli border were received from Palestinian residents of the territories who recently returned from visits to Jordan.

Senior army elements have stressed that the military cooperation between Iraq and Jordan has been expanding and has branched into new spheres, including reciprocal visits to each other's army units.

Officials, Groups React to Jerusalem Murders

Shamir Issues Communique

TA0608155790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has issued a communique stating that the Israeli people are bereaved and outraged at the horrendous crime perpetrated by inhuman villains. The cruel and brutal murder of the two boys reflects abysmal hatred and despair. My heart goes out to the Karamani and Tubul families who have lost their dearest ones. We will get our hands on the heinous assassins, and we will toil and struggle until peace and security prevail in Jerusalem and in all of Eretz Yisra'el.

Knesset Speaker Dov Shilansky has voiced his shock and outrage and has sent condolences to the families of the boys on his and the Knesset's behalf.

Minister Yuval Ne'eman of Tehiya has said that as 15 Knesset members [MK's] of the Alignment and other small left-wing parties were shaking hands with Faysal al-Husayni and his colleagues, the PLO's envoys in Jerusalem were sticking a knife into the boys' backs.

The Alignment faction has submitted a request signed by 20 MK's to the Knesset's secretariat to discuss the boys' murder in tomorrow's extraordinary session. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that former Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will speak on behalf of the Alignment.

MAPAM [United Workers Party] has also denounced the murder. The secretary of MAPAM has said there is no justification for such a deed and that terror must be uprooted. The party secretariat has sent condolences to the families of the boys and has called on the Israeli public for restraint and not to take the law into their own hands.

HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] has expressed shock. MK Tamar Gozansky has said that the horrendous and vile murder proves that evading a solution of the conflict does not strike it from the agenda and only brings tragedy. [passage omitted]

Sharon Urges Deporting Palestinians

TA0708181690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon said that following the discovery of the bodies of the two youths, the Israeli Government must expel the Palestinian leadership as soon as tonight. He asserted that the government should not merely limit Palestinian terror, but completely stop it at once. He stated that whoever is incapable of doing so should resign. Mr. Sharon was speaking before the Likud Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee this afternoon at Likud headquarters. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch reports:

Minister Ari'el Sharon said that the governments of false unity were responsible for the current situation. Now, however, there is a national government, headed by the Likud, which is free of the Alignment's chains. There is both an opportunity and an obligation to eradicate the violence and terror. In the wake of the discovery of the youths' bodies, Minister Sharon asserted, the Palestinian leadership should be deported tonight. Sharon stated that this leadership is made up of approximately 150 figures who operate in Jerusalem. They should be deported tonight, he repeatedly said.

[Begin Sharon recording] The Army should be ordered to eradicate; not to calm things down, soothe tensions, make the situation bearable, or permit life to continue along with these phenomena, perhaps at a reduced level. There should be one word: eradicate—and the leadership should be deported. If someone does not know how to implement this, he should go. Just one sentence: Whoever cannot carry this out, let him go. [end recording]

Minister Sharon thus sent the government home [as heard], if it does not immediately carry out massive deportations, and he repeatedly connected the invasion of Kuwait with the terror activities in Israel. Palestinian terror, he said, is a decisive factor in creating tensions in the area, tensions which then lead to wars. This terror, which brings war, must be stamped out. We are not feared that much anymore, so Saddam Husayn feels safer. Sharon also called on the government to demand massive military aid from the United States. We are not beggars at the door, he said: Israel is the United States' foremost bastion in the Middle East.

Elsewhere, the Tehiya party warned that it would resign from the coalition within several weeks if the government's security policy is not changed. The decision was passed by the party's secretariat. The Tehiya demands to meet the prime minister and inform him that if the policy is not changed within several weeks, and steps are not taken to upgrade security and to quell the intifadah, it will quit the government.

Knesset Holds Debate

TA0708122890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Knesset plenum has ended its debate on the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. It was decided without opposition to transfer the debate to the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. The Knesset is currently debating the murder of the two youths in Jerusalem.

Alignment Knesset Member [MK] Shevah Weiss said that the intifadah leadership must make a real effort to prevent such crimes and must not shirk its responsibility. These murderers are sticking a horrendous knife in the search for peace.

Likud MK Sara Doron called for an increase in police patrols and civil defense in Jerusalem. She attacked those who took the law into their own hands after learning about the discovery of the teenagers' bodies.

Justice Minister Dan Meridor, who is acting police affairs minister, is due to respond for the government.

Meridor Comments

TA0708133190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Justice Minister Dan Meridor said that we draw the necessary conclusions in the face of all the threats and all types of weapons, from nonconventional weapons to knives, and the lesson is that we will continue to become stronger and not rest until we capture the murderers. Minister Meridor responded for the government in a special Knesset debate on the murder of the two youths from Jerusalem. He said that even during times of shock and anger, we must not cast away the upholding of the law and not disturb the police in their hard work in investigating the murders. Minister Meridor said that the government is responsible for the safety of Israel's inhabitants and therefore stands by the bereaved families. He advised transferring the debate to the Knesset Internal Affairs Committee, but the Knesset members preferred to conclude the debate.

Palestinians Blame Oppression

TA0708113990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Notables from the territories have expressed regret over the killing of the two youths in Jerusalem, and worry about recent developments in the region. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an announcement they published states: The death of innocent youths on both sides is the sour outcome of Israel's policy of oppression in the territories, and its refusal to advance the peace. Among those signing this condemnation are Faysal al-Husayni, Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, and Ziyad Abu-Zayyad.

Israeli Arabs Express 'Outrage'

TA0708084290 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Aug 90 p 2

[Report by David Rudge]

[Excerpt] Shefar'am—Israeli Arabs expressed shock and outrage yesterday over the "cold-blooded murder" in Jerusalem of Ronen Karamani and Li'or Tubul.

The chairman of the National Committee of Heads of Arab Local Councils, Ibrahim Nimr Husayn, denounced the killings in unequivocal terms.

Husayn, who stressed that he was expressing the feelings of all Isareli Arabs in general, called for the perpetrators to be caught and punished.

"This was a terrible act and our sympathies and condolences go out to the bereaved families," Husayn, who is also mayor of Shefar'am, told THE JERUSALEM POST yesterday.

"We are opposed to all acts of violence, whether against Jews or Arabs, and the spilling of blood of innocent people, as in this case.

"Violence and extremism, on both sides, only breeds more of the same. Death and destruction does not solve problems. On the contrary, it puts obstacles in the path of peace and is not good for the cause of coexistence," he said.

Nimr Husayn called on both sectors of the community to show restraint, and to allow the police to perform the task of tracking down and apprehending the perpetrators without hindrance.

"If people try to take the law into their own hands it will only exacerbate the situation," he added. [passage omitted]

[A report by Yizhar Be'er on page A2 of Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 7 August notes that "Bethlehem

Mayor Ilyas Frayj was the first Palestinian notable who hastened to denounce the murder of the Jerusalem youths.

"Frayj said he deplores any attack on unarmed civilians and any murder. He sent his sincere condolences to the families of the youths, and said he hoped the murder would be investigated and its perpetrators would be found soon."]

Arabs Injured in Funeral Rioting

TA0708155990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The funeral services for Ronen Karamani and Li'or Tubul were held at the Shamgar funeral parlor in Jerusalem this afternoon. Because of the stifling crowds and the heat the service was moved outside of the inner structure and conducted in the open courtyard.

Religious Affairs Minister Avner Sciaki, representing the government, was interrupted right at the beginning of his statements by shouts of "Death to the terrorists" from the crowd, and hastily concluded his speech. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reported that thousands have arrived at the funeral, including Knesset members and the mayor of Jerusalem. The funeral procession is currently making its way to Har Hamenuhot.

Our correspondent just now reported that a riot broke out a few minutes ago at the Romema junction, near Television House, when a pickup truck with several Arabs inside was surrounded by a mob. The six passengers were dragged out of the truck and severely beaten. The police barely managed to extricate the beaten men.

In several Jerusalem locations a state of tension is tangible between Jews, who are massing in large groups, and Arabs, who are trying to drive through nearby intersections. Several incidents have been reported. Over the past hour there have been reports of three or four Arab vehicles whose windows have been smashed, mainly on the Valley of the Cross Road. After their occupants fled, the vehicles were overturned.

An Israeli car was torched in Abu-Tor. Our correspondent points out that in one incident on the Valley of the Cross Road, masked Israeli youths were seen attacking Arab vehicles. A car bearing Israeli license plates was overturned on the Hebron road. The driver was injured and taken to Hadassah-'En Kerem Hospital.

'Dozens' Hurt

TA0808064190 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 8 Aug 90 p 2

[Report by Doron Me'iri]

[Excerpts] Dozens of Arabs were wounded yesterday, some of them seriously, in unprecedented rioting in Jerusalem, in reaction to the murder of the teenagers Li'or Tubul and Ronen Karamani. Some of the casualties are still hospitalized. Jerusalem police have detained 32 rioters so far. Tempers calmed only around 2300 when the rioting ceased.

It began in the afternoon when the youths' funerals took place and grew after the funeral procession left the Shamgar municipal funeral parlor for the cemetery. One of the casualties, 'Izzat Halwani, 42, the father of six from the village of Silwan, is in critical condition in the neurosurgery ward at Hadassah-'En Kerem Hospital. He was hit in the head when he was attacked by a mob at the Hebron Road junction and his car was overturned. Doctors told his family that his chances for recovery are nil because bones penetrated his brain. [passage omitted]

Shortly after it began, the funeral procession for the two Israelis turned violent. Hundreds of youths, many of them ultraorthodox, attacked Arabs along the way and smashed the windshields of Arab cars, overturning some of them. [passage omitted]

At 1930, hundreds of inhabitants of the Pat neighborhood where Ronen Karamani's parents live took to the streets and stoned houses in the nearby Arab village of Bayt Safafa. "In retaliation for the two fatalities, we will kill 200," they screamed. In reaction, dozens of Arabs hurled stones at houses in Pat and shouted "Allah is Great." Fistfights and stonings broke out between the two groups. A large force of border police and police arrived at the spot, removed the Jewish rioters, and detained several Arabs. A short time later, hundreds of Pat residents again entered Bayt Safafa, smashing windshields and damaging houses.

There was also rioting in the neighborhoods of Shmu'el Hanavi, Sanhedriyya, Gilo, Romema, Talpiyyot, Giv'at Sha'ul, and French Hill. [passage omitted]

Editorial Condemns Murder

TA0708124090 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Aug 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Stabbing Peace"]

[Text] The kidnap-murder in Jerusalem on Saturday [4 Aug] night of two young Israelis was committed by people who do not want a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict. The killers did not, as some have said, harm their own cause, for their cause is not liberation, human rights and self-determination, but terror, war and death. "By stabbing the two boys in the back," President Herzog said yesterday, "they stabbed the prospects of peace." They served their cause well.

Until the murderers are caught there is no way of knowing if they are members of a PLO unit or independent operators, if their act was a planned attempt to restore attention to the intifada or an act of opportunity. What seems certain, however, is that for their cowardly depravity, they will become part of the Palestinian pantheon of heroes. A people which treats Saddam

Husayn with ecstatic adulation, lionizes the madman who caused 16 deaths on bus 405, celebrates the killers of a teenager on the beach, refuses to condemn the most heinous arbitrary acts of torture and murder among its own, and deliberately endangers its own children's lives, will most likely enshrine the killers of Ronen Karamani and Li'or Tubul in their lore.

One can only hope that a change in Palestinian attitudes will occur soon, that extolling murder will come to be understood as incompatible with preaching peace. And it must be hoped, too, that the hotheads who call for blind revenge, take out their rage and frustration on Arab passersby, torch Arab-owned cars, assault the police, threaten reporters and riot in the streets will understand that they are serving the cause of the murderers as surely as if they had been hired by them. Police Chief Ya'aqov Terner should be commended for making every effort to contain the disturbances at once.

The whole nation, indeed people of good will everywhere, share the grief of the Karamani and Tubul families and hope the murderers will be apprehended and punished. But, as Mayor Teddy Kollek said yesterday, "Very sadly we are going to have to live with this tension for a long time yet...we must build and strengthen united Jerusalem and neither lose our ideals nor forget our goals, even at painful hours like this."

AL-QUDS Details Israeli-Palestinian Document

TA0308141990 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 3 Aug 90 p 4

[Report by 'Isam al-Kurd]

[Text] Jerusalem—The meeting scheduled to be held yesterday between Palestinian figures from the West Bank and Gaza Strip and 18 Knesset members [MK's] with the aim of announcing a memorandum of understanding about the Palestinian problem was postponed. This memorandum contains four principles:

First—The Palestinian question is the core of the conflict and the basis of the problem in the region.

Second—The Palestinian people's right to self-determination is guaranteed, just as it is for all nations on earth in accordance with the UN charter.

Third—The continuing conflict should be resolved on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and all UN resolutions relating to the Palestinian problem. The negotiation process is to be conducted by the Israeli Government and the Palestinian people's legitimate representative, recognized internationally, within the framework of an international conference.

Fourth—No party is authorized or has the right to determine for the other party who will deputize or represent it.

It is noteworthy that this meeting was suppposed to take place two days ago but was postponed because some notables from the Gaza Strip could not come to Jerusalem. As to yesterday's meeting, it was postponed because the MK's were occupied until late evening with the deliberations over the Israeli Government's budget.

AL-QUDS has learned that preparation for this document began several months ago, but the participants' efforts ceased after the fall of the Israeli Government as well as during the period of the caretaker government. These efforts resumed three weeks ago, and agreement was reached over the four principles by 24 Palestinian figures and 18 MK's representing Labor, CRM [Citizens Right Movement], MAPAM [United Workers Party], and Shinuy.

One of the Palestinians who participated in the preparation of the document told AL-QUDS that the document's significance stems from the fact that it lays down agreed upon principles and a framework by which one can work in order to advance in the process of seeking a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem, in contrast to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's plan, which involves discussion of details without there being any principles for the fundamentals of the proposed solution.

One of the MK's affirmed that the document enjoys the support of 18 MK's and will be binding after it is signed.

Document Not Signed

TA0508174590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] The 15 Knesset Members who conferred this afternoon with Palestinian notables from the territories ended the meeting without signing the document of principles, although agreement on several central issues was reached. Both sides wished to add principles. Therefore, they will hold another meeting.

Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that the Palestinians wanted to add a clause that said Israel would be willing to hold negotiations with the PLO to the document. The MK's fear that the Labor Party would oppose such a clause.

Labor MK's Criticized

TA0708084690 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Aug 90 p 10

[Report by political correspondent Michal Yudelman]

[Excerpt] The Labor MKs who met with a group of pro-PLO Palestinians from the territories on Sunday were out of line with Labor policy and had put the party in "a most embarrassing position," Secretary-General Mikha Harish said yesterday.

He intends to issue a statement clarifying Labor's position on the issue at Thursday's Political Bureau meeting, he added.

Harish met with MKs Yosi Beilin, Hayim Ramon, Amir Peretz and Avraham Burg, who were among those who held talks with the Palestinians. He told them that they had acted without the party's approval and that he took a dim view of their joining with those outside the party in an attempt to formulate peace guidelines which had neither been discussed nor approved by party institutions.

Part of the document that emerged from the meeting, Harish said, appears to be out of keeping with Labor's position. While it is legitimate for any party member to raise political proposals, he added, they must first be discussed by party institutions.

Labor's hawks also sharply criticized the group which met the Palestinians. When they were said to be cooperating with Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi in calling on the U.S. to stop talking with the PLO, the hawks maintained, they were attacked and condemned for not first consulting with party institutions. Yet these MKs, in full view of the media, are preparing a document recognizing the legitimate right of the Palestinians to self-determination, the hawks complained. [passage omitted]

Cabinet Passes Immigration Absorption Plan

TA0208150890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Text] The cabinet has ended its session after adopting the prime minister's compromise proposal on preparations for the absorption of immigrants. Our correspondent Ya'ir Fidel reports that it was decided to import 9,000 prefabs and 5,000 trailers. The government will also allow private companies to import another 6,000 prefabs.

The finance minister demanded that funds to finance the plan should come from the current budget. The prime minister objected to Yitzhaq Moda'i's position, and the cabinet ultimately endorsed Shamir's proposal. Minister Moda'i expressed his displeasure with the cabinet's decision.

Bank of Israel Governor Professor Mikha'el Bruno later said that the way the decision was passed would lead the country to disaster. Bruno requested that his remarks be noted in the session's minutes.

Our correspondent Menahem Friedman points out that the cabinet decision was greeted with astonishment and shock by the Finance Ministry's professional level. Director General Ya'aqov Lifshitz remarked that Israel would have a hard time raising the resources necessary for the implementation of the decision.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 2 August notes "Treasury officials are now calculating the cost of implementing the cabinet decision. Their initial estimate is that it will require an addition of 1 billion Israeli shekels to the budget. The Treasury is adamant about not exceeding the budget by even one shekel, and proposes using 500 million shekels included in the second supplementary budget."]

Badran Returns From 'Successful' Visit to Syria

JN0708234090 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Jordanian side to the joint Jordanian-Syrian higher committee, led by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, returned to Amman from Damascus at the conclusion of the committee's meetings today. In a statement to reporters upon arrival, Mr. Badran said that the visit to Syria was successful. He said that the joint higher committee discussed all bilateral matters, and agreed on all topics on the agenda, particularly those related to economy, water and irrigation, education, and social issues.

The prime minister said that related documents were signed in Damascus today. The prime minister voiced his thanks to Syrian officials for their warm welcome and hospitality during the Jordanian delegation's stay in Damascus, particularly by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Mr. Badran and the accompanying delegation were welcomed at the airport by the deputy premier and interior minister, and other ministers.

Overland Entry of Foreigners Into Jordan Eased

JN0708135090 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, 7 Aug (WAKH)—Sources at the border department of Jordan's Public Security Directorate said that border officials have been instructed to facilitate the entry of foreigners into Jordanian territory. They can now receive visas at the border stations rather than having to possess visas before coming to Jordan.

According to earlier reports, the Iraqi Government had hinted that foreigners can leave Kuwait and Iraq by land through border posts.

Plane From Baghdad Arrives With Foreigners

LD0708173690 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] We have just learned that a plane transporting foreigners landed today in Amman, the capital of Jordan. It had come from Baghdad. There were 73 Japanese on board, plus some 30 Iraqis, two Belgians, one Spaniard, one Italian, and one Irishman. The plane then took off for Vienna. This flight, which was completely unscheduled, seems to be the first to come from the Iraqi capital since the invasion of Kuwait last Thursday [2 August].

Activists Call for Boycott of U.S. Products

JN0708080490 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 7 Aug 90 p 3

[Report by Maryam M. Shahin]

[Text] Amman—Leaders of Jordanian unions and professional associations have joined the rising tide of anti-American sentiment by issuing a call for public support for a boycott of all American products and dealings with agents of U.S.-made products.

In an atmosphere filled with anger over what participants saw as a U.S.-led campaign of condemnation of Iraq over its take-over of Kuwait, a bulletin prepared by the Public Freedoms Committee of the professional association, made available to the press said: "We protest the steps taken by the U.S. Administration against the Palestinian and Arab people."

The bulletin said that the call to boycott American products came in response to proposals made by the Jordanian Writers Association and in accordance with popular demand. The bulletin suggested the adoption of the following resolutions: a call on all unions and professional associations to boycott all U.S.-made materials, supplies and products; a call to boycott all agents of American products in Jordan and abroad; a call on all unions and professional associations in the Arab World to follow suit; a call on the Jordanian media to begin a campaign to support the boycott.

A congregation of 150 people sat at a round table chaired by Khalil Ramadan, head of the Public Freedoms Committee. Labour unionists, heads of professional association and five members of the Lower House of Parliament attended the meeting and suggested practical steps that could be taken to carry out an effective boycott.

While all participants called for a boycott of all consumer goods "made in the U.S. or any of its corporates abroad," some went as far as to call for a halt of imports of any military supplies or military expertise.

"The poisonous fangs of American should removed from our area. Those who have drawn alliances militarily, commercially or otherwise, with the ally of Israel have forsaken the whole Arab Nation," said 'Isa Madanat, a Democratic Bloc member in Parliament.

Ziyad Abu-Ghanimah, the official spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood said that all those collaborating with the U.S. in "this country and the region" should be shown the door. He also called on the Jordanian people to form a "people's army" in preparation of what were "obviously designs to expel more Palestinians from Palestine and further encroachment of Israel on Jordan."

While most speakers spoke about what could be done on a popular level, several participants pointed out that government and regional organisations should also participate.

"Let's face it: Jordan alone carries very little weight. If labour unions and professional organisations throughout the Arab World take a common stand, a boycott will be much more effective," said Amman Deputy Tahir al-Masri.

Al-Masri said that in 1956, during the famous "Suez crisis", Arab organisations and unions had taken a joint stand and had thus been more effective.

Suggestions varied from boycotting all U.S. airliners to stopping the importation of cigarettes such as Marlboro and Kent. Some participants suggested holding a hunger strike in front of the U.S. Embassy to protest their support for Israel and its "unfriendly stand towards the Arab people."

Still other participants called on the Jordanian and other governments to initiate boycotts of American-made products.

Many participants stressed that the U.S. government had adopted double standards in the area of human rights for too long.

"When Israel invaded Lebanon we heard no calls for economic and political sanctions from the great protector of human rights, territorial sovereignty and regional security, i.e. from the U.S. and Western Europe," said 'Azmi al-Khawajah, who is representative of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The only communist deputy in Parliament, 'Isa Madanat, asked: "Could I be wrong or was the U.S. really breaking international law in Grenada and Panama a while back? Maybe some human rights are more precious than others."

The three-hour meeting ended when a seven-member committee was chosen by participants to organise the boycott.

An observer noted that it was "the first meeting in Amman, that I have seen, where representatives of all different political trends had no difference of opinion—for once America united us," he said.

Provisional Kuwaiti Government Not Recognized

JN0808051190 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0410 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Replying to a question by PETRA-JNA on Jordan's position on the declaration of the republican system in the fraternal State of Kuwait, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said: On 5 August, I announced that Jordan would not recognize the provisional government. Therefore, it will not recognize the republican system declared by that government. This means that Jordan's recognition of the amiri system in the State of Kuwait is still valid.

The prime minister added: Jordan, in harmony with itself and its firm policy, has adhered, and will continue to adhere, to the principle of the inadmissibility of occupying land by force. Based on that principle derived from the UN Charter, Jordan has been trying to contain the recent crisis between fraternal Iraq and fraternal Kuwait within the Arab framework. It also exerted every effort to prevent it by eliminating its causes. Jordan—its leadership, government, and people—will continue to exert every effort in this direction to carry out its national and pan-Arab duty and to prevent foreign and hostile sides from harming the higher Arab interest.

King Receives Saudi Envoy, King Fahd's Message

JN0808052990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0405 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at al-Nadwah Palace last night Shaykh 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi education minister and acting higher education minister, who conveyed to his majesty a message from the Saudi monarch within the framework of exchanging views on developments in the Gulf region to promote joint Arab action and to reach the desired solution to the crisis.

Shaykh al-Khuwaytir then listened to his majesty on his latest contacts and consultations to find an Arab solution to these developments and to prevent foreign interference that may further complicate this task and produce the worst results. The meeting was attended by Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, his excellency the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, his majesty's political adviser, and the Saudi ambassador in Amman. Shaykh al-Khuwaytir arrived in Amman last night. He was received at the airport by his majesty's political adviser 'Adnan Abu-'Awdah.

Armed Arab Help To Be Sought If Israel Attacks

JN0808075590 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] In Amman, PETRA-JNA cited an official spokesman who declined to give his name as saying that Jordan will ask for Arab military aid to oppose any Israeli attack on Jordan if Israel were to exploit the current serious developments in the Gulf.

It is noteworthy that Israeli officials, including Defense Minister Moshe Arens, threatened earlier during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait that Israel will attack Iraq if Iraqi forces are deployed in Jordan.

Editorial Chides Arabs for Siding With Enemies

JN0708174590 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Aug 90 First Edition pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "What We Feared Is Happening"]

[Text] Suddenly, we realize that the terms "Arab solidarity," "Arab ranks," and "joint Arab action" need to be realized with deeds, and not with the spoken or written word.

If we insist that we are Arabs, living in an Arab homeland that extends from the Arabian Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean, we must make sure that this homeland remains free of foreign intervention and must protect its Arabism and the Arab order.

Can Arabism become an alternative to other things, some comprehensible and some incomprehensible, such as seeking the protection of foreigners?

Will we accept Iraq's being delivered to its enemies and being left prey to the plotters and the greedy on flimsy, untenable pretexts?

Will we accept impotence as wisdom when the entire nation is at stake and when it is being confiscated, sold, or expunged?

Why are the rapacious imperialist and Zionist forces being offered as justification to interfere in Arab affairs through resolutions that were cooked up and yanked out of certain quarters that do not care for the consequences?

Why do some people want the United States, with all the interests and alliances it represents, to be the overlord in our region and confirm this by denouncing what it denounces, opposing what it opposes, and befriending whom it befriends?

Has this nation reached that contemptible stage of helping its enemies penetrate its vital organs so it can spread to and attack the other living organs of its body?

O Arabs: This Iraq, which is under attack, is Arab—pulsating with Arabism and assuming a mission to awaken Arabs. Hence, Iraq is being singled out for attacks. Now Iraq is being fought because it emerged triumphant after eight years of war in defense of itself and its nation. This cannot be tolerated.

How can we allow ourselves as Arabs to repeat the words of the enemies of Iraq and the Arab nation? How can we allow ourselves to echo the threatening U.S. and Israeli phrases against Iraq?

How can we view the war of the intervening U.S. warships as a deliverance? How can we consider the CIA declaration of war against Iraq permissible?

What a world. It has become accustomed to seeing rampant American evil and aggression, and now is addicted to it, so much so that it is taking sides with U.S. aggressiveness and shaking hands with it.

We had hoped the UN resolutions on Lebanon would be unified and effective toward the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the continuous aggression against the Palestinian people and the confiscation of their rights and political rights.

We had hoped the Arab resolutions would be adopted against, and not for, the U.S. decision which is now being hatched at the UN Security Council to carry out an aggression against Iraq.

Jordan has warned, and is still warning at the eleventh hour, that the Arabs must rise up to solve their problems by themselves and within the Arab household, and not let their resolutions be transformed into Trojan horses through which the enemy, regardless of its various guises, can penetrate the Arab heart by pushing the Arab region backward and placing it under foreign domination.

Do the Arabs realize that danger has always come from foreign intervention?

Do the Arabs realize that their struggle should be directed at their many enemies, beginning with Israel which is occupying and desecrating the sanctities of Arab territory, and not against Iraq, which has protected and is still protecting Arabism?

30-40,000 Egyptian Workers Said Crossing Jordan

NC0808101590 Cairo MENA in English 1001 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, Aug. 8 (MENA)—The Egyptian embassy in Jordan is taking steps to facilitate the passage of Egyptians coming from Kuwait across Saudi territory following the Iraqi military incursion in Kuwait.

Egyptian ambassador here Muhab Muqbil, is holding intensive contacts with a number of Jordanian officials and the board of the Arab Jisr shipping line, to offer all facilities for those thousands of Egyptian travellers to help them cross to Egyptian territory through al-'Aqabah-al-Nuwaybi' line as soon as possible without any complications.

On the other hand Jordanian sources said there are tens of thousands of Egyptian labourers who were working in Iraq now present at the border on their way back to Egypt, following the recent developments in the Gulf region.

The sources estimated their number to be ranging from thirty to forty thousands. [In a Cairo-datelined item at 0935 GMT on 8 August, Cairo MENA in Arabic adds, "Ahmad al-'Amawi, chairman of the Egyptian Trade Union Federation, has announced that necessary measures and steps have been taken to ensure the welfare of Egyptian workers in Iraq and Kuwait and that these steps have been coordinated between the federation and the Foreign Ministry.

["In a statement today, al-'Amawi said that the federation is continually following up the conditions of the Egyptian workers in order to ensure their safety and good treatment and to facilitate their departure and return to Egypt after the Saudi-Iraqi border is opened.

["Al-'Amawi asserted that the federation appreciates the efforts made by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and the concerned Egyptian ambassadors for this purpose."]

Drop in Value of Gulf Currencies Discussed

JN0808111590 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Aug 90 p 24

[Report by the economic editor]

[Text] If the drop in the value of the Kuwaiti dinar by approximately 60 percent is understandable in view of the uncertainty surrounding the future of the Kuwaiti currency, the phenomenon that calls for an explanation is the nearly 15 percent drop in the prices of the other Gulf currencies.

This phenomenon can be explained by the fact that there is fear of U.S. armed intervention, or even the possibility of the landing of U.S. forces in some Arab Gulf states on the pretext of protecting them from an alleged Iraqi invasion.

If such an intervention were to take place and an American force attack Iraqi or Kuwaiti targets, it is feared that Iraq would be compelled to take measures to paralyze production and shipping operations, which would have a negative effect on the economies of the Gulf states, especially if they lose their ability to produce or export oil.

On the other hand, money changers have already accumulated large quantities of Gulf paper currencies during the present tourist season, which has resulted in great demand for the Jordanian dinar.

Captors To Release Swiss Hostages Within 24 Hours

NC0708205290 Paris AFP in English 2050 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Beirut, Aug 7 (AFP)—The captors of two Swiss delegates from the International Committee of the Red Cross held in Lebanon said late Tuesday they would release their hostages within the next 24 hours.

A statement issued by the Organization of Palestinian Revolutionary Factions, a hitherto unknown group, was accompanied by an instant color photo of one of the two men who were seized in south Lebanon 10 months ago.

Emanuel Christen, 33, and Elio Erriquez, 24, disappeared October 6, 1989, near the southern port of Sidon, but no group had previously claimed their abduction.

U.S. Military Moves Suggest War 'Inevitable'

NC0808082490 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] The U.S. military movements toward the Gulf suggest that war is inevitable, especially if Iraq attacks Saudi Arabia should the latter cut the Iraqi oil pipeline passing through its territory.

Meanwhile, diplomatic observers wonder if Saudi Arabia can refrain from complying with the UN Security Council resolution that calls for imposing economic sanctions against Iraq including financial, trade, and economic measures.

The United States and its allies emphasize that the threat of Iraqi war still surrounds the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Therefore, Washington is continuing its military preparations to defend Saudi Arabia.

According to reports disseminated late last night, ground and air forces have been sent to Saudi Arabia. These forces are expected to begin deploying and to take up positions in Saudi Arabia today.

U.S. media, especially television stations, have reported the step taken by the government of U.S. President Bush to contribute to defending Saudi Arabia in the wake of the imminent Iraqi threat.

In this respect, the White House noted that the Iraqi forces constitute a real threat to Saudi Arabia. It indicated that the Iraqi command is redeploying its forces, suggesting increasing danger.

Radio Talk Condemns U.S. Actions in Gulf

NC0808113890 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 90

[Text] Under the aegis of the UN Security Council resolution, the United States has placed the region on the brink of war and exploited the resolution to defend its own interests. The United States today landed its forces and planes in Dhahran and other sites in the Saudi Arabian kingdom after U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney convinced the Saudi leadership that Iraq is massing its forces on its border. An additional 150 F-15's and F-16's are expected to arrive in Saudi Arabia today. American fleets continue to assemble around and in the Gulf. So far 30 U.S. warships have assembled in the area, including three aircraft carriers—the last being the nuclear carrier Eisenhower which traversed the Suez Canal today with two other vessels.

At a time when U.S. President George Bush is expected to announce his next steps, Baghdad announced that a statement will be broadcast at 1830 this evening. It is expected to include a proclamation of a union between Iraq and Kuwait.

While Baghdad denies any intention of attacking Saudi Arabia and the Americans insist on talking about Iraqi designs, Washington has reinforced its military presence and imposed an oil blockade on Iraq by closing the pipelines passing through Turkey and Yunbu' in Saudi Arabia. Washington is currently seeking to make other Arab countries participate in a multinational force to be sent to Saudi Arabia. Cairo has denied it has participated in such a force. Morocco's stand has not so far been known. U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney met with King Hassan II last night prior to his expected return today to Washington.

Baghdad completely disregarded Washington's allegations pertaining to its threats to Saudi Arabia and instead stressed, in a speech by President Saddam Husayn, the abolition of the artificial borders which were drawn 70 years ago. It will crown this today by proclaiming a union with Kuwait.

Hizballah Sets Four Conditions for Army's Entry

NC0708170590 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Voice of the People Radio has cited informed sources as saying that Hizballah has conveyed its stand on the dispatch of the Army to Iqlim al-Tuffah. Hizballah had asked to be given 48 hours to give its reply in the wake of its delegation's meeting last week with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam.

Hizballah's stand consists of the following four points:

1. That the Army enter the area and deploy as extensively as its resources allow;
2. That the chosen Army units act impartially toward all parties;
3. That the Palestinians be evacuated from the areas under the Army's control, that everyone be treated equally, and that those returning to the areas of deployment be protected;
4. That the Damascus agreement be implemented.

Lebanese Justice Minister Rizq Arrives

Praises Ties

JN0708121590 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Edmond Rizq, Lebanese justice and information minister, arrived in Damascus this mornig on a visit to Syria at the invitation of Information Minister Muhammad Salman. He was welcomed at the western entrance of Damascus by Information Minister Muhammad Salaman, Adib Ghanam, assistant information minister; and Dr. Sabir Falhut, doyen of the journalists' union. In a statement to SANA, Rizq explained that this visit reaffirms the close fraternal relations between Syria and Lebanon and is a part of joint action on common issues to strengthen the practical bases for cooperation in various fields. The Lebanese information minister praised highly Syria's role in supporting and helping Lebanon during this stage in accordance with the principle of the new national charter.

Meets With Information Minister

JN0808084090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Damascus—Information Minister Mohammad Salman and Edmond Rizq, Lebanese justice and information minister, held a meeting at the Information Ministry at noon today. The meeting was attended by Adib Ghanam, assistant information minister, and Dr. Sabir Falhut, doyen of the journalists' union. During this meeting talk centered on ways to strengthen and develop fraternal Syrian-Lebanese relations, especially in the information field, issues of bilateral interest, and matters related to the Lebanese Government's steps to extend its legitimate authority throughout Lebanon.

During the meeting Salman stressed the importance of the role of information in both countries in reaching the desired solution and extricating Lebanon from its ordeal and crisis. He added that coordination between Syria and Lebanon is continuing at all levels to serve their common interest and the higher Arab interest.

On his behalf, the Lebanese information minister expressed his appreciation for the pan-Arab Syrian positions taken by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad toward Lebanon in particular and affirmed that all Syrian-Lebanese contacts, including those in the information field, fall within the framework of strengthening fraternal ties between the two sisterly countries to serve their common interest and to support Arab issues.

Received by Al-Asad

JN0708163890 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] At 1345 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Edmond Rizq, Lebanese justice and information minister. The meeting was attended by Information Minister Muhammad Salman. During the meeting, talks centered on the Lebanese situation.

Al-Shar' on Euphrates Waters, Al-Ta'if Agreement

PM0708112590 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 2 Aug 90 p 7

[Ahmad Rajab report: "Al-Shar' Tells 'UKAZ: Syria Rejects Any Amendment to al-Ta'if Agreement"]

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has emphasized that there is no problem between Syria and Iraq over Euphrates waters.

He said that the problem concerns sharing the Euphrates waters coming from Turkey and has still not been resolved between Syria and Iraq on the one hand and Turkey on the other, indicating that there is a Syrian desire to resolve the issue through dialogue.

He added that the waters issue is serious with regard to the future and we must find common ground in order to resolve it before it worsens and leads to armed conflicts.

On the waters being stolen by the Zionist entity from the Jordan River's tributary streams, he said: Of course this is unacceptable and we are in contact with the UN secretary general to provide him with any information or details related to any possibilities of waters being stolen by Israel from South Lebanon.

He also said: According to my information, in view of the inquires conducted by the UN General Secretariat, the UN secretary general has informed us via Deputy Secretary General Goulding that this information is inaccurate.

Answering a question asked by 'UKAZ about [Lebanese Prime Minister] Salim al-Huss' statement on Lebanese waters being stolen by the Zionist entity, al-Shar' said: The Lebanese Government is in contact with the United Nations to refer to it any complaint concerning that issue. We in Syria strongly back any complaint submitted to the United Nations by the Lebanese Government. We also believe that all the Arab and Islamic states strongly back the Lebanese complaint.

Answering a question asked by 'UKAZ about General Michel 'Awn's refusal to join the Lebanese authority, he said: Syria's position is similar to the higher Arab tripartite committee's position and the Lebanese Government's position: No amendment to the al-Ta'if agreement because it was endorsed by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. Any Lebanese party which tries to amend or change the al-Ta'if agreement will find no one to listen to it. We in Syria believe that such attempts will fail because there is no support for the idea of changing or amending the al-Ta'if agreement. We make our judgment of the Lebanese parties on whether they accept the al-Ta'if agreement or not. We support and back any Lebanese party which accepts the al-Ta'if agreement and flocks under the Lebanese authority's banner. There is no problem or sensitivity between us and them. We support any measures which the Lebanese Government may take in the face of any Lebanese party rejecting the al-Ta'if agreement.

Mr. Faruq al-Shar' pointed out that the Lebanese Government has decided to take some economic and political measures to force the rebellious parties to submit to the legitimate authority and accept the al-Ta'if agreement as a practical and realistic solution in order to extricate Lebanon from this crisis.

Meanwhile, Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has said: We will not agree to restore the dialogue of the deaf with the United States. In a press conference attended by 'UKAZ in Cairo, Qaddumi said that the Jerusalem Committee will make open decisions with regard to resisting Israel's efforts to abolish the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism.

AL-BA'TH Editorials Discuss Gulf Crisis

7 Aug

JN0708124790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the press review]

[Text] In its comment today under the headline "The Gulf Dangers and the Zionist Exploitation," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says: As usual, when inter-Arab relations become tense or suffer from a split or trouble, Israel tries to calculate so as to benefit from circumstances and exploit them in its favor in a way that serves its expansionist, hostile plan against the Arab nation.

The paper stresses that since the establishment of the Zionist entity, Israel has several times placed the region on the brink of explosions that could have been transformed into an unexpected world confrontation. Through amassing conventional and other weapons, Israel has turned the region into stockpiles of arms that are waiting for a spark to inflict catastrophe on all the peoples of the region and to destroy all that was achieved by mankind in this part of the world in terms of a civilization, which is thousands of years old.

AL-BA'TH adds: In light of this, several of the region's crises and problems, including the troubles in inter-Arab relations, are in one way or another based on the major danger that was created by Israel's existence in Palestine and the danger this existence poses to pan-Arab security in its entirety.

Concluding, the paper says: We are all, in all parts of the Arab homeland, in need of the maximum degree of caution and vigilance while this Zionist move is underway to seize the opportunity to exploit the Gulf events in the interest of the hostile Zionist plan. This is because our number one enemy is still characterized by the fascist Zionism and its plans, which will exclude none of us when Israel gets the opportunity to aim its weapons against all Arabs and to destroy our present, history, and future in all parts of the Arab world.

Only Nation's Enemies Benefit From Arab Disputes

6 Aug

JN0608071290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Aug 90

[From the press review]

[Text] In its Opinion editorial, the newspaper AL-BA'TH says under the title "We Are Engrossed in Our Disputes While the Enemy Is Knocking at the Door": In the past and more recently we in Syria have declared that disputes between any two Arab countries need to be resolved through brotherly dialogue. We have also said that it is a fatal mistake to allow any international party, irrespective of which, to interfere in internal Arab affairs because this can complicate matters even further and give all the enemies of the nation the opportunity to do whatever they please to serve their near and far goals.

We are not adding anything new when we say that the foreigner has very large interests in our Arab homeland and that his interest lies in keeping conflicts ongoing among Arabs. Of course, Israel heads the list of these enemies.

Therein lies the importance of being careful and aware of what the enemies of the nation are attempting to do: exploit the situation between the two fraternal countries, Iraq and Kuwait.

AL-BA'TH adds: When, on behalf of Syria, President Hafiz al-Asad said an immediate Arab summit must be convened to handle the resulting situation between Iraq and Kuwait, he did so out of a deep concern to keep the conflict within an Arab framework since the interest of the nation so requires and also because Syria knows very well the danger of allowing the enemies of the nation to interfere in issues that are purely the Arab's business.

The enemies of the nation, as is known, are the only beneficiaries from any dispute that may take place between Arab countries.

AL-BA'TH adds: Syria still believes that dialogue is the productive way to solve the existing dispute between Iraq and Kuwait since this is the only way we can block the road to all the enemies of the nation. These enemies are lying in wait from every angle and are waiting for an opportunity to open a loophole in the Arab dialogue through which they can infiltrate into the Arab body so that they can loosen it from the inside.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Therefore, if the Arabs want to thwart the schemes of the enemies, then everyone must absolutely reject foreign intervention in any dispute that might arise among Arab countries. In this way, we can then prove to the world that we are really capable of containing any crisis that might take place between any two Arab countries. In this way, we also assert—and this is more important—that the interest of the Arab nation is the prime consideration.

5 Aug

JN0508130290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 5 Aug 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Through Dialogue, Not Force, Arab Differences Are Resolved," AL-BA'TH says: Since the first signs of dispute between two Arab states, Syria has called for settling it through dialogue and not through force or threats because this method endangers pan-Arab security.

AL-BA'TH says that attention should be always focused on the principal issue and the central conflict between the Arab nation and its enemy, Israel. What is required at the pan-Arab level is that every efforts be made to strengthen Arab solidarity, which has suffered from imbalance and distortion. The nation must rise above all differences and confront dangers, especially the dangers resulting from Jewish emigration, on the future of the Palestine question and the Arab homeland in general.

The paper refers to Syria's request for an urgent Arab summit to tackle the situation in the Gulf and says: The situation is very serious and there must be concerted efforts to defuse marginal conflicts of whatever kind. The call for a summit still stands. An immediate summit is the best and quickest way to deal with this new problem. What is required at the pan-Arab level is to prevent any possible foreign intervention by resolving the causes behind the conflict and the serious situation resulting from it that threatens the Arab nation—land, resources, and existence.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Solving Arab differences among themselves and by means of a summit is the best solution for averting the dangers of foreign and Zionist ambitions against the Arabs. This solution gives the Arabs an image as a family that solves its differences through dialogue, not force.

Commentary Deplores Arab 'Subsidiary Conflicts'

JN0308151490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Do we add anything new to the knowledge of the nation's leaders and masses if we reiterate that the expansionist Zionist schemes are gaining more ferocity and viciousness as the state of Arab decrepitude continues? Is it an exaggeration or a departure from logic to say that the Arab nation is currently being subjected to a new Zionist aggression? One of the manifestations of this new aggression is the new Jewish immigration to the occupied territories, taking into consideration all the grave dangers this immigration poses to the entire Arab existence. This aggression, moreover, is demonstrated in the war of annihilation waged by Israel against the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Arab territories and in the Zionist occupiers' tenacious determination to hold fast to the Arab territories in Palestine, the Golan, and southern Lebanon and to pillage Arab water. It has become crystal clear that Israel's undertaking a new aggressive, expansionist step now is very imminent. In view of all these facts, what have the Arabs done to ward off the danger and protect their existence?

All evidence shows that, until now, the Arab nation has not sufficiently realized the magnitude of the dangers besieging it. Nor has the Arab nation dealt with the grave events taking place with the high awareness they merit. In fact, it is regrettable that what is taking place is the opposite of what is needed. For the Zionist danger has almost been dropped from Arab concerns and minds and pan-Arab concerns have taken an inferior position in regional concerns and considerations. Moreover, while our enemy is stepping up its armament, in terms of human and material strength, our decline and bleeding is accelerating through disputes and squabbles to further increase our weakness and our going astray in a whirlpool of subsidiary conflicts and drowning in a tunnel of marginal concerns. All this is happening as if the Zionist danger does not exist; as if the Arabs should place obstacles and bottlenecks in the way of their own solidarity and throw aside this strategic weapon—which is, in fact, the most potent and sharpest weapon in the crucial pan-Arab battle against the Zionist enemy and the forces behind it; and as if the Arabs should dissipate their efforts and energies in subsidiary fires, leaving their entire fate subject to an imminent danger that surrounds them and threatens to uproot them from their lands, as a prelude to establishing Greater Israel from the Euphrates to the Nile.

The dangers are manifest. Great leader Hafiz al-Asad has warned of the imminent dangers to our nation. This early warning has gained increasing weight amid the regional, Arab, and international circumstances; placed the entire Arab nation before its responsibility to live up to the grave challenges facing it; and highlighted the need to stop the bleeding in the Arab body, circumvent the complications of subsidiary conflicts and disputes, and put out their flames so that Arab energies and capabilities can be steered toward the main battle. No voice should take precedence over the voice of the critical battle with the Zionist enemy. Nothing can be gained from resolving Arab disputes by means other than dialogue, and there is no justification or pretext for preoccupation with starting subsidiary fires because these will consume Arab energies and capabilities. Consequently, they will undermine the Arab confrontation with the Zionist enemy and turn their attention from the expansionist Zionist schemes against all the Arabs—excluding no one. So, when will some Arabs realize this fact, and deal with it with due concern, giving precedence to the Arab nation's higher interests over any other consideration?

The masses of the nation have always sided with those who unify the nation's capabilities and not with those who squander them, with those who employ all the nation's capabilities in the crucial pan-Arab battle against the Zionist enemy and not with those who do not put them in their right place.

Afghanistan

Government Discusses Political Changes in Pakistan

LD0708172390 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The prime minister's press office reports that an extraordinary cabinet session was held today under the chairmanship of Esteemed Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, prime minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, in Golkhana Palace during which important international and regional developments were discussed.

Esteemed Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil presented a detailed report on the dissolution of Pakistan's government and parliament and on the declaration of a state of emergency in that country as well as on the effects of regional changes and developments.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan is scrupulously following developments in light of the political changes in Pakistan and in the region.

Kabul Counts on Refugees To Salvage Economy

BK0808013090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0115 GMT 8 Aug 90

[By Amal Jayasinghe]

[Text] Kabul, Aug 8 (AFP)—The Afghan Government is banking on the return of refugees to salvage its war-battered economy, Finance Minister Mohammad Hakim said. "When refugees return with the improvement of the situation here, we can start rearranging the economy," Mr. Hakim said in a recent interview.

He said all sectors of the economy have suffered due to the fighting now in its 12th year. About a million people are believed to have died in the fighting that has forced five million Afghans to seek refuge abroad. The minister is pinning his hopes of putting the economy back on track upon the return of millions of refugees, who are expected to bring with them international help for their rehabilitation.

He expects considerable money from the international community and foreign banks, almost all of whom have shunned Afghanistan since the December 1979 Soviet military intervention, to nurse the economy back to health. Afghanistan's performance in the fiscal year ending March 20 paints a gloomy picture for financial recovery. Government revenue fell by 20 per cent, while expenditures rose by 32 per cent.

Mr. Hakim said inflation was 34 per cent in the last fiscal year. No comparative figures are available, but diplomats here estimate that prices have risen sharply since march 20. The Gross National Product (GNP) fell by eight per cent last year. Projections were not available for the latest year, and Mr. Hakim said the country was unable to stick to targets because of the war. Western countries have not resumed aid to Afghanistan, cut after the Soviet intervention.

President Najibullah has said the deployment of Soviet troops to fight mujahidin guerrillas was a costly mistake. The president recently blamed the loss of valuable foreign aid and investment on the Soviet intervention.

Officially, the biggest trading partner for Afghanistan is the Soviet Union, followed by India. Afghanistan imports fuel, wheat, weapons and ammunition from the Soviets and pays with carpets and dried fruit. Despite the economic woes, private traders smuggle in huge quantities of Japanese-made consumer goods, especially electrical appliances, and route them to Pakistan illegally.

Mr. Hakim believes that with the return of refugees, there would be a jump in the share of trading in GNP, which is now put at nine per cent. He said trading was restricted because of fighting and disruptions in transport. He was quick to point out that 98 per cent of the country's agricultural land and about 95 per cent of trade is in the hands of private individuals and the government was now encouraging private trade and foreign investment.

For the first time since the 1978 pro-communist revolution that brought Mr. Najibullah's party to power, the Kabul government has amended the constitution to allow foreign banks and insurance firms to set up business here. So far there has been no indication of foreign companies wanting to come to Afghanistan, but Aviation Minister H. Tarzi said recently the government was offering 49 per cent of shares in its national airline Ariana Afghan to U.S.-based Pan Am.

The Pakistan-based mujahidin see the return of Afghan refugees as a conspiracy against them to prop up Mr. Najibullah's Soviet-backed government. About 400 families have returned in the past two weeks, and the influx, though small, has depressed the price of the U.S. dollar in the semi-official money exchange here.

The local currency stabilized last week at nearly 500 afghanis to a dollar. The dollar was fetching almost 710 afghanis in mid-April. Some economists believe a sudden influx of refugees would increase the demand for goods and add to inflation, while others argue it will encourage international donors to finance reconstruction, pumping in hard currency Kabul badly needs.

Spokesman Comments on Mideast Situation

LD0708173790 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan has said the following about the recent developments in the Middle East and Gulf region:

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan expresses its concern regarding the situation created in the Middle East—in particular on the eve of the convocation of 19th session of the Islamic Conference Organisation—which causes discord and division among the Arabs and Muslims.

Five Afghan Diplomats Defect in Two Months

BK0708140590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1337 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul, Aug 7 (AFP)—Five senior Afghan diplomats based in Europe and Asia have defected in the past two months, sources close to the government here said Tuesday. The defecting diplomats, key members of President Najibullah's ruling Watan Party, were stationed in Yugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, North Korea and Kuwait, the sources said. The reasons for the defections were not immediately known.

They included Charge D'affaires Samad Asghar in Yugoslavia, who was a founding and a Central Council [as received] member of the party formerly known as the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The envoy to North Korea, Hashmath Kaihani, headed the Protocol Department of the Afghan secret service.

The sources said the other three defectors were Hashmath Awran (Hungary), Mohammad Aziz (Czechoslovakia) and Mohammad Samir (Kuwait). Kabul's ambassador in Moscow, Gulabzoy, defected soon after the failed March 6 coup against Mr. Najibullah and now lives in Moscow with the blessing of Soviet authorities, diplomats here said.

Mujahidin Regime Denounces Iraqi Invasion

LD0708211290 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Condemning the occupation of Kuwait territory by Iraqi forces, the interim government of Afghan Mujahidin in Peshawar regarded this as a blatant violation of Islamic principles and called on Kuwaitis to resist the occupying forces.

The French News Agency reported from Islamabad that 'Abdul Rasul Sayyaf, prime minister of the Mujahidin interim government in Peshawar, issued a statement calling for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait territory.

A warning is given in this statement to the Iraqi Government against every action regarding the expansion of its military interference in the region.

Islamic Unity Party To Continue Struggle

LD0708184290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Mortazavi, the spokesman of the Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan today announced in Tehran: The struggle of the Muslim Afghan Mujahidin will continue until the complete collapse of the government ruling over that country and the establishment of an Islamic government in its place.

According to the report of our correspondent, referring to the agreements which have been reached with groups stationed in Pakistan, he said the following concerning the expulsion of Soviet forces from the Afghan soil: The Muslim Afghan strugglers believe that those who have been responsible for the martyrdom of more than one million individuals and the homelessness of five million people will have never have a role in the future of Afghanistan.

He added: The fate of the Muslim country of Afghanistan will be decided by the Muslim Afghan people and Mujahidin regardless of any agreements or any dealing between the East and the West.

Islamic Unity Party Opens Tehran Office

LD0708211590 Tehran IRNA in English 1836 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug 7, IRNA—Simultanous with the declaration of the establishment of the central branch of the Afghanistan Islamic Unity Party here, its nine commissions were also introduced.

Giving a brief history of the IUP its spokesman Hojjat ol-Eslam Mortazavi said the commissions were political, cultural, military, economic, public relations, information, hygiene and finance.

The party formed in Bamian, Afghanistan last year is a coalition of nine Shi'ite Afghan mujahideen groups with its command headquarters now in Afghanistan.

The headquarters of the group is also deployed in Afghanistan.

Missile Attack on Kabul Yields 14 Dead, 10 Hurt

LD0708162690 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Today 14 Kabul citizens were martyred as a result of 14 missiles which were fired by the extremists. Ten people were wounded.

According to a BIA military report the wounded were taken to hospital and are under treatment. The missiles were of the Sakr type which, in contravention of international norms, were supplied by the United States—this so-called defender of human rights—in order to be used to terrorize and massacre our people.

The missiles were fired from around Kabul city, hitting residential areas in the 4th, 5th, and 11th city wards resulting in two motor-vehicles being set ablaze and great loss of life.

Bangladesh

Iraq Asked To Free Nationals Arrested in Kuwait

BK0708173490 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Sixty one Bangladesh nationals working as civilian officers, technicians, cooks, and cleaners in Kuwait have been taken into custody by Iraqi authorities. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Dhaka today that all these people were working at (Ahmad al-Jabir) air base. Besides, 17 cleaners working in the National Cleaning Company are reportedly missing. The government has requested Iraq for immediate release of Bangladeshis and ensure the safety of Bangladesh nationals in Kuwait.

Kuwaiti ambassador to Bangladesh, Mr. Mohammad Ibrahim al-Nazran, [name as heard] called on Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud in Dhaka today. The ambassador informed the foreign minister of the developments leading to Iraqi invasion of his country and the measures taken in the state by Iraq. During the meeting, Mr. Anisul Islam Mahmud reiterated Bangladesh's support to the resolutions of the UN Security Council, the Arab League, and the OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] calling for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Iraqi troops from Kuwait and for the restoration of sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the state under legitimate government of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The foreign minister also informed the ambassador of Bangladesh's total rejection of the use of force by any country to seek settlement of bilateral disputes.

Australian Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

BK0808032590 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Senator Gareth Evans arrived in Dhaka this evening on a three-day visit to Bangladesh. Talking to newsmen at the airport, the Australian foreign minister said big potential exists between his country and Bangladesh for further development of political and economic relations. He expressed satisfaction at growing Dhaka-Canberra relations over the last years.

India

Gujral Says Pakistan Warned on Leader Statements

BK0308154290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] India has warned Pakistan that the irresponsible utterances of some Pakistani leaders will have calamitous and unforeseeable consequences. The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, told the visiting foreign minister of the Philippines, Mr. Raul Manglapus, in New Delhi that some Pakistani leaders have been talking about completing the unfinished business of partition with India. This is unfortunate, and New Delhi's warning has been conveyed to Islamabad through diplomatic channels, he said. Mr. Gujral also apprised the Philippines foreign minister about various steps taken by India in improving relations with all her neighbors, including Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, and China.

Pakistan's Raising of Kashmir Issue Protested

BK0608145690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] India has accused Pakistan of violating the Simla Agreement by raising the Kashmir issue at the recent meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference in Cairo. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry told newsmen in New Delhi today that Pakistan's efforts to internationalize the issue in any manner will not help the bilateral process now on.

Reaction Continues to Bhutto Government Dismissal

Political Parties Criticize

BK0608175190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1710 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 6 (AFP)—India's ruling party hit out Monday at the dismissal of Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, calling her abrupt sacking "anti-democratic," as New Delhi said it was closely watching the situation. "The dismissal of Benazir Bhutto is a definite setback to the nascent democratic movement in Pakistan," said the Janata Dal (People's Party), the largest constituent of the ruling National Front alliance.

"Although India's relations with Pakistan did not improve under Ms. Bhutto, we are outraged by the anti-democratic character of her dismissal," party General Secretary S. Jaipal Reddy said. He said it was too early to comment on the possible impact the development would have on the often-stormy relations between India and Pakistan.

Relations between the two neighbours have deteriorated in recent months over a violent Moslem secessionist campaign on the Indian side of Kashmir which New Delhi alleges is backed by Pakistan. India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence from British rule in 1947, two of them over Kashmir.

Ms. Bhutto's dismissal was announced just three days before foreign secretaries of the two countries were due to meet here for a second round of talks on Kashmir. The government of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh reserved comment on the dismissal, but said it was keeping a close watch on developments in Pakistan.

A senior official in the prime minister's office said New Delhi was constantly monitoring the situation following Ms. Bhutto's sacking, and would have a substantive reaction later. The dismissal was also condemned by the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) and the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (Indian People's Party), both allies of the V.P. Singh government.

"This is not a positive development," senior CPI-M leader Harkishan Singh Surjeet said. "A democratic government being dismissed like this is retrograde," he added. Former Foreign Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee of the BJP said it had led to an "unhappy situation," but did not elaborate.

India had effusively hailed Ms. Bhutto's rise to power in late 1988 as a triumph for democracy, seeing in her a hope for better relations. But the hope did not materialise as traditional mistrust persisted between the two countries, and relations finally hit rock-bottom this year over Kashmir.

Belligerent statements from both capitals and reports of troop buildups whipped up war clouds in April which were later defused by diplomatic gestures. But tensions have persisted. Former Indian Foreign Secretary S.K. Singh told the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA that Ms. Bhutto "tried to make too many compromises with too many disparate elements and had fallen between many stools." He said she had travelled rapidly from a "symbol of youthful hope to a promoter of religious passion."

Retired Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, director of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses here, said Ms. Bhutto's sacking had reconfirmed the "fundamental instability of Pakistan's political system." He said the next elections would be the "greatest test" for Pakistan's fledgeling democratic movement.

CPI-M Politburo Criticizes

BK0708161190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Politburo of the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] has condemned the dismissal of the Benazir Bhutto government by the Pakistani president. In a press release in New Delhi today, the CPI-M said that the sacking of a democratically-elected government and the house arrest of Ms. Benazir Bhutto is a setback to the people's struggle for democracy in Pakistan. The Politburo apprehends that these developments will adversely affect India-Pakistan relations.

Gujral Comments

BK0708080790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] India has expressed the hope that there will be no discontinuity or setback to democratic process in Pakistan, because of dissolution of the National Assembly and dismissal of the duly elected government of Ms. Benazir Bhutto and that people's will would prevail.

In a statement read out at a news conference in Kathmandu this morning, Mr. Gujral said that the developments in Pakistan have come as a surprise to us, particularly when Ms. Benazir Bhutto had not lost her majority. He said it is an internal affair of Pakistan and we do not want to say anything on this, but experiences of the past have shown that shock of this kind anywhere puts democracy under severe strain.

Government To Make Statement

BK0708095890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The government will make a statement in the Rajya Sabha tomorrow on the developments in Pakistan. This was stated by the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, in the house during the zero hour today while responding to a demand to this effect by several members. He also assured the members that all Indians in Kuwait are safe.

Gujral Gives Statement 8 Aug

BK0808085990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] A message just received says India has categorically stated that the recent developments in Pakistan are the internal affairs of that country and hoped that there will be no discontinuity or setback to the democratic process there, and people's will would prevail.

In a suo moto statement in the Lok Sabha today, the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, said the developments have come as a surprise, particularly when there was no indication that Ms. Benazir Bhutto had lost majority in the National Assembly. He said experience shows that shocks of this nature anywhere put democracy under severe strain.

Mr. Gujral said India has always worked toward building a relationship of cooperation and goodneighborly relations with Islamabad and supports a stable Pakistan. He said our efforts have continued despite severe provocations, including support for terrorism and subversion directed against India. The external affairs minister however said that India believed that a friendly, constructive, and cooperative relationship will not only benefit the people of the two countries, but will also contribute to the peace and stability in the region.

Punjab Governor Blames Pakistan for Trouble

BK0808032390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] The Punjab governor, Mr. Virendra Verma, has blamed Pakistan for creating trouble in the state. He was talking to a visiting delegation led by the U.S. Ambassador in India Mr. William Clark, in Chandigarh yesterday. Mr. Verma said Pakistan is not only giving shelter to some Pak terrorists but is also providing sophisticated arms free of cost to the terrorists. The governor said that during the recent months, killings of innocent people has increased. He also informed the visiting delegation about the seizure of about 1,200 weapons from the terrorists.

A delegation of Akali Dal-Mann has also met the governor. Talking to the delegation, Mr. Verma asked them to cooperate with the administration in stopping the killings of the innocent persons in the state.

Evacuation of Nationals in Liberia Considered

BK0608162290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] New Delhi is considering evacuation of the remaining people of Indian origin now sheltered in a school in the Liberian capital Monrovia. About 460 people of Indian origin are sheltered in the Indian community school following heavy fighting between the security forces and rebels in Liberia. The United States is evacuating its citizens by sea, and the option to evacuate the Indians along with them is being examined by New Delhi.

Gujral Proposes South Asian Common Market

BK0608163490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, has made it clear that India is against the interference in the internal affairs of any other country. Answering questions after his address to the Nepal Council of World Affairs in Kathmandu this evening, Mr. Gujral categorically said that India is against the concept of importing or exporting revolutions for democracy.

AIR [All-India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent Harish Segon reports that Mr. Gujral expressed India's readiness to establish a comprehensive framework of economic cooperation with Nepal. This could be a model for wider cooperation in the entire South Asian region. Mr. Gujral also advocated the establishment of a South Asian common market within the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation].

Tamil Nadu Chief Opposes Sri Lankan Visit

BK0408150490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] The center is holding consultations with International Red Cross and the Sri Lankan Government on the possibility of opening refugee camps under UN supervision on the island itself to arrest the large-scale influx [of] refugees to Tamil Nadu. This was disclosed by the Tamil Nadu chief minister, who had discussions with the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, in New Delhi. Mr. Karunanidhi told newsmen in Madras today that he had conveyed the state government's objection to the center on the reported move of Sri Lanka to send its High Commissioner in New Delhi to visit the refugee camps in Tamil Nadu and ascertain their conditions.

Sri Lankan Navy Seizes Indian Trawlers, Crew

BK0508163390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 48 persons are reported killed in the renewed clashes between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and the security forces in the northeast during the last 24 hours. Official reports in Colombo say that in a three-hour battle early this morning, 40 LTTE militants were killed in an air attack around Jaffna Fort. In the gun battle, LTTE militants killed two policemen and injured six persons inside the fort. Two soldiers were killed in Chinnakkulam in Vavuniya District and another between Amparai and Pulukunava. In Periyapalam in Trincomalee, three dead bodies were found today.

In Talaimannar, the Sri Lankan Navy has apprehended two Indian trawlers and taken into custody eight Indian crew. Our Colombo correspondent reports that several opposition parties in Sri Lanka have condemned the mass killing of innocent people in Kattankudi Village on Friday.

Meanwhile, the LTTE has denied involvement in Friday's massacre of over 100 people in two mosques. In a statement in Colombo today, it accused the Sri Lankan government of complicity in the act to win the support of Arab countries.

Kashmir Militant Party 'Top Leadership' Arrested

BK0608151690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] In a major breakthrough in the Kashmir Valley today, security forces captured the entire top leadership of the so-called Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front [JKLF]. Those arrested in the early morning swoop include the commander and chief of the so-called JKLF, Yasin Malik, his deputy Hamid Sheikh, and the area commander of the Jammu region of the outfit, Mohammad Hussain, alias Kaka. Hamid Sheikh was among the five militants released in the Rubaiya [daughter of union home minister kidnapped by Kashmir militants] case. In all, 11 top-ranking hardcore leaders of the so-called JKLF were arrested after special units of the BSF [Border Security Force] encircled the house in Barzulla locality.

Kashmir Governor Says 150 Militants Killed

BK0408162590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, nearly 150 Pakistan-trained militants were killed and about 600 arrested in encounters along the line of actual control during the last two months. Disclosing this, the state governor, Mr. G.C. Saxena said in the border town of Punch today that the situation along the line of actual control has started showing improvement after stringent measures taken by the administration. He said the security forces are doing a commendable job in defending the border.

Iran

President on 'Innocence' of Republic

LD0708132690 Tehran IRNA in English 1217 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Tuesday [6 August] pointed to the recent turn of events in the world and said that "seditioners have been fighting each other over the past few days."

"These crucial days," he added, "those who used to blame us are now speaking about the innocence of the Islamic Republic."

The world was witnessing Iran's rational stand towards these developments, Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the inaugural session of the congress of heads of educational offices from throughout the country.

The president who also heads the high council of the cultural revolution lauded the nationwide efforts of the educational staff, and said that if objectives were achieved, "independence, grandeur and welfare of the future generations will be ensured." He praised general mobilisation in the country against illiteracy, and said that this new move has helped about 900,000 illiterates to learn to read and write this summer, which figure would increase in the coming winter.

During the session, Education Minister Mohammad 'Ali Najafi presented a new plan for the intermediate educational training to President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Commentaries Views Implications of Iraqi Invasion

'Great Powers' Loot Third World

NC0708193690 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Station political commentary]

[Text] The UN Security Council issued a resolution last night imposing an economic boycott on Iraq and its puppet government in Kuwait. The resolution was adopted by a sweeping majority. This is the first time in UN history that the Security Council has issued such a firm and binding decision on all members.

For some time now, it has been clear that the world is moving toward a period of calm in light of the resolution of the disagreements among the great powers and the trend toward liberty in East Europe. Naturally, Third World countries are still being looted in the calm atmosphere resulting from East-West rapprochement. The great powers, whose satanic structure is standing on the shoulders of the oppressed of the world, have begun to use new methods to loot the Third World without provoking international conflicts. In the Middle East at least, and after the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran, there were signs that the fire that aggressor Iraq inflamed for eight years had begun to die down. The small countries on the coast of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, which were somewhat involved in the war imposed on Iran, imagined after the cease-fire that aggressor Iraq had learned the necessary lessons from the destructive war it had imposed on the Iranian and Iraqi peoples for eight years. However, Saddam Husayn's Iraq, which believes that its stability hinges on the region's instability, sent its aggressor forces into Kuwait early last Thursday, letting loose a bloodbath in this small country.

Before the vote was taken on the Security Council resolution last night, the Kuwaiti delegate announced terrifying news about the killing, looting, and terrorizing by the occupying forces. Independent sources confirmed the reports that the Kuwaiti delegate announced to the whole world. According to the reports, the Iraqi forces are looting the wealth of Kuwaiti residents and are generally acting like occupation forces. They are making arrests. Executions have also occurred. Thousands of Iraqis arrived in Kuwait to support the Iraqi forces there. They settled in residential neighborhoods, in the houses of Kuwaiti citizens. Every person who tried to defend his home was either executed or arrested. Tens of thousands of Iraqi occupation troops were stationed in Kuwait in disregard of international public opinion, convention and laws, and human and Islamic principles.

It has become certain now, in light of the measures adopted by international circles, that Saddam Husayn will find himself compelled to withdraw his forces from Kuwait, and the tormented Iraqi people will suffer the consequences of what has happened so far. These people lost hundreds of thousands of their sons on the altar of the Iraqi regime's whims, ambitions, and adventures during the eight-year imposed war. They are now weighed down by the suffering of hundreds of thousands of orphans, widows, and bereaved mothers who are deprived of family care because of the Iraqi aggression on Iran.

The world, which shook at the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and which understood aggressor Iraq's real designs on Kuwait, hastened to impose economic sanctions on Iraq as a preliminary step. The Iraqi people who will bear the burden of the economic boycott are now wondering for how long the current situation will persist. The bells of war have begun to ring again in Iraq. General mobilization, coercing citizens to join the armed forces, and the rationing that was imposed during the war have all begun again. Thousands of Iraqis who returned to Iraq after the imposed war stopped are suffering miserable conditions like other millions of wronged Iraqi citizens. The Iraqi rulers, who imagine they can confront the entire world, are now seeking to deceive international public opinion with their lies. Though the Iraqi troops were due to withdraw from Kuwait on 4 August, Baghdad continued to send reinforcements to that country.

The aggressor and criminal Zionist entity exploited the situation arising from the recent Iraqi aggression to the utmost degree. It continued its criminal acts—killing or wounding women, children, and men in occupied Palestine and settling thousands of Russian Jewish immigrants in the occupied territories. It is benefiting from the silence of international media and their interest only in the news about Iraq and Kuwait. Criminal Tel Aviv has exploited the Iraqi aggression on Kuwait to obtain more weapons. Who knows but that it may carry out a new adventure, posing serious threats to this region's security in the near future.

Everything that has happened in one week was the price of the Iraqi aggression. It is an exorbitant price that is daily increasing.

Region 'In Grave Danger'

LD0808100290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 8 Aug 90

["Guards Corps" program; unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. [passage omitted] In the first hours of Thursday, 2 August, Iraqi Armed Forces crossed Kuwaiti borders, and in a short time occupied the capital and strategic points of that country, toppling the political system ruling over Kuwait and replacing it with a new government. [passage omitted]

The objectives and motivations of the military aggression of Iraq against Kuwait and the occupation of that country, whatever they are, are not important. The fact that the Iraqi regime has decided to take an action which is opposed to the peace and security of the region, which of course, seems unlikely and remote; or that it has taken this action by drawing on the support and approval of its Western masters, is not all that important. What is important is that such an action will place the regional strategic security and peace of the Persian Gulf, and even of the world, in grave danger.

Today, the murmurs of the intervention of superpowers in the region on the pretext of confronting the aggression of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime and of support for the legitimate sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait, is louder than ever. Can one imagine a graver danger and greater threat than that of the intervention of foreigners in the Persian Gulf region? The aggressive action by Iraq can prepare the grounds for the extensive military presence of the superpowers and Western powers in the region; undoubtedly this would not be in the interest of the countries of the Persian Gulf region.

In addition to what has been said, any action on the part of any country which would cause the daily increasing crimes of the Zionists against the Palestinians to be eclipsed and, which would place into the tower of oblivion completely the usurper and illegitimate presence of the Zionist occupying regime in Islamic territories, is, without any doubt, contrary to the interests of the Muslim nations in the region and the world of Islam.

Mo'ayeri Returns After Ankara Mission 7 Aug

LD0708181990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Mo'ayeri, the president's advisor on international affairs, who had arrived in Ankara last night to convey the oral message of president Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Turkish President Turgut Ozal, returned to Tehran this afternoon.

During this visit he held discussions with Turkish officials about the bilateral relations between Iran and Turkey and the recent developments in the Middle East.

Reportage on Mo'ayeri Visit

WA0708134590

For reportage on the visit by foreign affairs adviser Ali Reza Mo'ayeri to Ankara, including reports on his talks with Turkish President Ozal, please see the Turkey section of the 7 August West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Foreign Ministry Denounces Sri Lankan Violence

LD0708162590 Tehran IRNA in English 1534 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug 7, IRNA—Foreign Ministry Spokesman Morteza Sarmadi today denounced the massacre of defenceless Muslims by the separatist Tamil group LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] in Sri Lanka last Friday [3 April]. Expressing deep shock over the cold-blooded killing of civilians engaged in acts of worship in mosques, he called the Sri Lankan Government to end the violence and defend the life and property of Muslims in that island state.

On Friday, more than 140 Muslims were slaughtered while praying in two mosques in Muslim populated Kathankudy in the eastern part of Sri Lanka. The same separatist group, LTTE, gunned more unarmed Muslims in the few days.

Planning Chief Advocates Foreign Economic Aid

LD0708181490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Ambassadors and charges d'affaires of foreign countries in Tehran met today with Zanjani, deputy president and the head of the plan and budget organization and were familiarized with the economic plans of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the methods of implementation of the first five-year economic, social, and cultural development plan of our country.

In this meeting, the deputy president referred to the first economic, social and cultural development plan and talked about the comprehensive reconstruction and strengthening of the economic situation of the country. He said: Toward this goal, the Islamic Republic of Iran will make use of all foreign economic and political assistance which will help in the implementation of the goals of the plan.

Referring to oil deposits in the world, he said: Possessing 10 percent of world oil deposits and having the second position in gas deposits, Iran has economic potential and one can make use of these resources for speedy economic growth. He added: On the other hand, rich mineral resources such as iron, lead, zinc, copper, gold, and uranium, and the differences in temperature in different parts of the country provide a very good basis for economic growth and development. Side by side with these resources, we possess numerous skilled human resources whose training give us a suitable industrial base to use our resources, making extensive investments quite profitable.

The deputy president also described the goals and policies of the first Five-Year Plan and said: Within the framework of capabilities and consequences of this plan, in view of the gross national product whose annual growth at the fixed prices of 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989] is 8.1 percent, and in view of the unused capacity, it is forecast that the economic growth predicted in the plan will be achieved. In the same context, the growth of investment in fixed prices will be about 11.6 percent per year.

These figures provide us with a suitable and flourishing economic outlook.

He also explained the executive policies of the plan and said: The plan has been drawn up in such a way that its implementation will be possible in view of the existing capabilities.

Nepal & Bhutan

India's Gujral on PRC Arms Sales, Pakistan

BK0708141990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1336 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 7 (AFP)—Indian Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral said here Tuesday that India believed China had ended its arms sales to Nepal. Mr. Gujral told a press conference he and his government were now convinced China had stopped selling arms to Nepal.

Replying to a question from an Indian journalist at the end of his three-day visit here, Mr. Gujral said India is convinced that arms traffic from China has now been stopped. Before leaving for India on June 8, Nepalese Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai announced that Nepal had asked China to cancel delivery of the last 10 percent of an arms consignment ordered by Kathmandu.

Nepal's arms buying from China was one of the main bilateral strains that led to a 15-month trade and transit dispute with India that ended after Mr. Bhattarai's New Delhi trip. After making the comments, Mr. Gujral left here for Kailali District, 380 kilometres (237 miles) southwest of Kathmandu, to attend the opening of a 1.15 million U.S. dollar bridge built by India and then return home.

Nepalese Minister for Public Works and Transport Julum Shakya was due to open the 120 metre (396 foot) bridge later Tuesday. Mr. Gujral said his three-day visit to Nepal was a "very happy event," adding that he had been able to meet old friends and Nepalese leaders.

He said "my talks with Nepali Congress leader Ganesh Man Singh and Prime Minister K.P. Bhattarai and his Cabinet colleagues have been very fruitful and I think we have tied one more knot in our friendship together." He told reporters that King Birendra would visit India, adding that the details of the visit would be finalised later.

He also said Mr. Bhattarai would meet with Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh at Benaras in the Indian state of Bihar, where Mr. Bhattarai was born. He did not say when the two men would meet. Commenting on political developments in Pakistan, he said, "The news of the dissolution of the Pakistani National Assembly and the dismissal of the duly elected Government of Pakistan and Benazir Bhutto has come as a surprise to us, particularly when she has not lost her majority in the National Assembly." However, "this is an internal affair of Pakistan and we do not want to say anything (more) about it," Mr. Gujral said.

Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's said the external threat to Pakistan's security was one reason for his dismissal of Ms. Bhutto and the dissolution of the National Assembly. However, Mr. Gujral said, "I don't know what Pakistan or anybody who has spoken on behalf of Pakistan has said about the external threat. As far as India is concerned the threat does not exist."

Pakistan

President Khan Addresses Nation 6 Aug

BK0708101790 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 7 Aug 90 pp 3, 6

["Text" of President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's 6 Aug address to the nation]

[Text] Islamabad—The following is English rendering of the President's address to the nation:

My dear countrymen,

Assalam-o-Alaikum!

You must have by now come to know that in exercise of the powers conferred on me by clause (2) (b) of Article 58 of the Constitution, I have dissolved the National Assembly and, as a consequence thereof, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet have ceased to hold office.

The Presidential Order issued today refers to the regrettable acts of omission and commission against the Constitution, the law and established democratic norms, as a result of which the utility and efficacy of the National

Assembly as a representative institution had been defeated, the people had lost confidence in it, and an appeal to the electorate had become necessary. The order also refers to the highly condemnable misappropriation of popular mandate through open and continuous political horse-trading as well as to the various violations of the Constitution in respect of Centre-Provinces relations, encroachment on provincial autonomy, role and status of the Senate, respect for high judiciary, use of official machinery and resources, and so on. The Order further speaks of the large-scale plunder of national wealth, the scandalous incidence of corruption, and the sad law and order situation in Sindh, and concludes that, considering the prevailing conditions and events that have taken place, I have reached the conclusion that the Government of the Federation was not being and cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and an appeal to the electorate has become necessary. Accordingly the National Assembly has been dissolved.

I have taken this decision in deference to my Oath and in the fulfilment of the enormous responsibility that constitutionally devolves on me, being the symbol of the Federation's unity and the protector of the Constitution. I have taken this decision after cool, dispassionate and careful consideration and with full sense of responsibility, when all other efforts to correct the situation had failed to produce results despite a long and agonising wait. And I have taken this decision with the confidence that it is fully in consonance with the thinking, wishes and aspirations of millions and millions of Pakistan's common people. I am convinced that on the one hand, this decision satisfies the strong popular sentiment that a few self-seeking, selfish and incorrigible individuals must not be allowed to play with the destiny of over one hundred million people and the future of the country and on the other hand, it practically affirms the fundamental principle of democracy that the real sovereigns of the country are, and shall always be, the people who can withdraw at will the right to govern which they delegate to their representatives as a sacred trust and on the condition that it would not be betrayed.

I have not [as published] doubt that my decision is thus in the best interest of the country, the nation and democracy. I am also sure that this action will be supported by everyone who puts national integrity above politics and constitutional obligations above momentary expediencies, who has the good of the country at heart; who wishes to see democracy—genuine and clean democracy—to flourish; who thinks that the whole nation should not be made to pay for the incompetence, follies and selfishness of a few individuals; who believes that the people must be granted their right to hold to account those who betray their trust and dash their hopes.

In democracies, it is the people's hopes and aspirations which provide lead and guidance to the elected representatives. This is how it should be. As I had pointed out in my address to the joint session of the Parliament last year, in developing countries, the people do not cherish democracy for its intellectual worth. Rather than the philosophical value of democracy and its grandeur as a concept, the common man is more interested in its utilitarian aspects. His commitment to democracy has its roots in his expectations that his fundamental rights will be ensured, that he will be extended justice with dignity, that he will be provided equal opportunities and that his problems will be resolved with his own participation.

The people of Pakistan harboured exactly the same expectations in the wake of revival of democracy. And justifiably so. They were anxious to see the dawn of a new era of peace, tranquillity, harmony, justice and equality. They were desirous of instant solutions to problems and of equal opportunities of progress and prosperity on the basis of merit and without discrimination. But they were totally disappointed. The errings and inaction of their representatives washed away their initial enthusiasm.

In that address, I had tried to mirror the people's feelings and had also identified the factors causing agony and anxiety to them. I had reminded the elected representatives that the people wished to see them work in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, conciliation and cooperation in the spirit of the Constitution; and wanted them to show accommodation and tolerance towards each other. I had emphasised the indispensability of clean politics. I had advised that the same treatment should be meted out to others as we expect of them. I had implored that criticism be tolerated with a large heart and opposition for the sake of opposition be avoided. I had suggested that instead of the usual concentration of power, we should work for the delegation of authority, so that the allocation of responsibilities between the Federation and the Provinces and the division of powers among the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary, as enshrined in the Constitution, could be fully respected. I had underscored the value of the Senate's positive contribution for the Federation's unity and for continuity in the democratic process. I had drawn attention to the heavy legislative responsibilities. I had laid emphasis on the country's Islamic identity and on adherence to Islam for our survival and welfare and had stressed the need to take up the unfinished agenda of Islamisation. Simultaneously, I had tried to make the elected representatives realise the highly unsatisfactory state of their performance up to then.

I had expected—and so had the nation—that in response to this candid critique of the contrast between popular aspirations and election promises on the one hand and the actual performance of the elected representatives on the other, they would take note of the realities of the situation and initiate a bold process of self-correction. But, regrettably, my submissions fell on deaf ears and things kept going from bad to worse. You know fully well how political confrontation because a way of life and lack of mutual understanding a routine; how escapism from realities was resorted to as a policy; how necessary decisions were evaded; how constitutional and administrative institutions were crippled; and how, as a consequence, the nation was divided and national wealth plundered.

Everyone of you is, to some degree, a witness to things I am referring to. Who of you has not heard about the highly disgraceful violation of people's mandate and of its treatment as a commodity of trade? Political stock exchanges were opened and political horse-trading was indulged in unabashedly. At the time of No-Confidence Motion against the Prime Minister, such unlawful and unethical methods were employed to muster support for or against it that our National Assembly became a laughing-stock throughout the world. Members of the Assembly remained, in a way, in confinement like hostages and were kept from voting according to their conscience through inducements or threats. As somebody puts it, some sold their conscience for ministries and some for plots of land, some mortgaged their loyalties in return for loans and some for promised gains. Those who apparently professed consistency of loyalty also claimed and received their price by threatening to cross over. And thus all those, who regarded politics as trade, tried to cash in on every turn of events. None of them bothered to realise that he was committing a violation of the Oath taken in the name of Allah, or that without the voters' consent, he had no right to abandon the party on whose ticket he had been elected in party-based polls. To do so was to betray the people's trust, which is an act of sin in the eyes of God. As a result of such a conduct of the elected representatives, our adversaries got a chance to remark that a take-over bid can be made for Pakistan's National Assembly in a sum of two to two-and-a-half billion rupees.

The story does not end there. The dignity of the Parliament was eroded in a number of other ways also. The Parliament occupies a pivotal place in a democratic system. It should have been made the central forum for the resolution of major national issues and the main source of direction and impetus for positive social change. Instead, with utmost short-sightedness, it was embroiled in peripheral issues. So much so that even a fundamental business of legislation was not taken seriously. Apart from the Budget, no worthwhile Bill was moved in the House, let alone passed. Much of the work was carried on by re-issuing old Ordinances and most of the time was consumed by discussion of Adjournment and Privilege Motions. Constitution of Standing Committees, which are so vital for the working of a parliamentary system, was procrastinated for 19 months. Most of the Ministers did not bother to attend the House. At times, lies were told from the floor and facts were concealed. No heed was paid even to amending the out-dated Rules to bring them in conformity with constitutional provisions. And thus, gradually, the National Assembly lost its utility and efficacy.

On the other hand, conscious attempts were made to erode the honour and respect of the Upper House of the Parliament—the Senate—and to make it controversial. The Senate symbolises the unity of the Federation and the equal status of the federating units. It is a source of continuity in public representation. In all democracies, the Upper House of the Parliament enjoys a special status. But here in our country, doubts and misgivings were raised even about the legality of this very important and august institution and it was subjected to continuous criticism. Thus, the credibility of an institution created under the Constitution continued to be damaged.

The impact of political bankruptcy did not spare other constitutional institutions of the State either. On the one hand, a most honourable institution like the higher judiciary was ridiculed and the impartiality and fairness of the its judgments were openly attacked, and on the other, the demands of justice were trampled by setting free, or remitting the sentences of thousands of prisoners in the name of political freedom without following the due procedures. Release of political prisoners was certainly an admirable act. But those so released also included offenders against the substantive Criminal Law and "legal and moral criminals" duly convicted by the competent courts. Neither were the charges against them investigated nor were the facts of their cases looked into. Heinous crimes like murder, dacoity, kidnapping and rape were simply pardoned for the sake of cheap publicity, thereby making a mockery of justice.

The Election Commission too suffered from neglect. The vacant positions of Members were not filled for a long time, with the result that it was incapicitated from taking up several petitions and cases of floor-crossing which could have affected party position in the assemblies.

The Civil Services, which form the backbone of the administration, represent yet another institution set up under the Constitution. Like many others, it too became a target of political expediencies and willful arbitrariness and was subjected to unprecedented irregularities. Postings and promotions became a matter of personal whims, likes and dislikes and were simply used to favour or punish individuals. An organisation was created in the Prime Minister's Secretariat by the name of Placement Bureau' through which were apointed 26 thousand persons on government jobs on political basis, without following the prescribed rules and regulations or taking into account the requirements of merit, experience, age and provincial quota. Even legally disqualified individuals were considered qualified for appointment without any additional ground or justification. In this manner, not only were the deserving ones deprived of their rights but a committed partisan bureaucracy was also inducted into the official set-up.

Moreover, quite an army of Advisers, Special Assistants and OSDs [Officers on Special Duty] was recruited from amongst dismissed government servants and persons rejected by the people. They enjoyed proximity to the rulers and, considering themselves above discipline and prevailing rules and regulations, arrogantly strutting in the corridors of power. When public criticism over their appointment and of their conduct mounted, their resignations were accepted and they were duly discharged in pursuance of the President's Orders. However, royal munificence continued to be showered on them and they were allowed to keep enjoying as usual official amenities and privileges.

All these acts were against the Constitution and the Law.

Those government servants who took exception to these developments or did not fit into the new scheme of things, became unwanted pariahs and treated as outcasts. According to the Government's own claim, at one stage their number stood at 59. However, newspapers put the figure at more than one hundred. They were known as "Officers on Special Duty" but their only special duty was to stay at home and get paid for doing nothing! This not only put an unfair drain on the national exchequer but also undermined the self-respect, efficiency and performance of civil servants. As a result of all these practices, the country's administrative machinery lost the ability and zeal to perform its assigned functions.

Those in power also failed to run the federal system smoothly in accordance with the Constitution. Conflict between the Centre and the Provinces, tension in their relations and their efforts to humble each other assumed conspiratorial dimensions. All attention and energies were concentrated on confrontation with the 'dirty tricks'. From the law-enforcing and sensitive agencies to mass media organisations—the entire official machinery was deployed unhesitatingly and unabatedly to promote party interests, harm the opponents and carry out character assassinations.

The basic cause of conflict was simply that, under the spell of the desire to monopolise power, the split, electoral mandate was not accepted with an open heart and was sought to be subverted through intrigues and conspiracies. This unfortunate tendency resulted in confrontation between the Centre and the Provinces and was also responsible for a number of wrong decisions, deviations from democratic norms and all sort of political blackmailing.

There was no issue between the Federation and the Provinces which could not have been resolved according to the Constitution, through dialogue and on the basis of give-and-take. What was needed was to make serious and sincere efforts. Some half-hearted attempts were made but, these too were marred by political expediencies, ego problems and obduracy and could not produce the desired results.

With a view to ensuring provincial autonomy, the Constitution provides for the 'Council of Common Interest'. However, despite persistent demands by the Provinces, this body was not allowed to meet. In fact, the convening of a meeting was publicly dubbed as amounting to inviting an unmitigated disaster on the country. Similarly, the Constitution envisages a National Finance Commission to allocate to the Provinces their share in national resources. But no meeting of the Commission was called on the plea that it is being reconstituted. The fact, however, was that approval to its reconstitution had been given in July 89 and all that was needed to bring the reconstituted Commission into being was to issue a notification. But that was intentionally delayed for over a year.

Allowing these two constitutional bodies to function was not a matter of personal discretion or choice but a constitutional requirement which had to be met. But this obligation was ignored, thereby violating the Constitution and creating in the Provinces an impression that they were being deliberately denied their rights and their due share in national resources.

The Constitution explicitly envisages division of power between the Federation and the Provinces and assigns to them their respective spheres with clearly delineated authority. However, here too, an attitude of unyielding arbitrariness was adopted. If the Provinces talked about exercising their constitutional rights, it was called a revolt. In contrast, the Federation insisted on centrally controlling programmes which came under provincial jurisdiction. This duality of approach was best exemplified by the People's Works Programme.

Not taking the prescribed rules and regulations of financial discipline with their proven efficacy seriously in the allocation of funds, in their disbursement and in the matter of audit, and accounting, the five-billion-rupees programme, which was meant to be a development programme, was sought to be used as a means of political bribe. The Programme was essentially intended for local development. The sectors chosen for it fell in the sphere of provincial responsibility. As such, it was necessary to associate the Provinces with its planning and implementation and to take their priorities and recommendations into consideration. But an evasive attitude was adopted towards this requirement with the motive of using the Programme for political gains.

As an outcome of confrontation with the Provinces and encroachment on their autonomy; an impression began to emerge that the present system is not capable of looking after the interests of the federating units. And when the perception of the failure of a system becomes common, people start looking for alternatives and often turn to provincialism, regionalism and local loyalties. What makes a situation like this a cause for concern is that an element of hostility comes to characterise their relations with the Centre and they start to fight with the Centre for their rights. We must, therefore, seriously consider if the time has not come to give a practical shape to provincial autonomy as enshrined in the Constitution, instead of merely making verbal claims of respecting it. Responding to the positive demands of the changing times, we should take meaningful steps towards permanently removing the Provinces' sense of deprivation so as to strengthen the federal bonds and promote the spirit of a single nationhood. We must refrain from practising policies which threaten the Federation's integrity.

In the wake of revival of democracy in the country, it was expected that the gulf of hatred and discord between the various segments of population will be bridged. This could have been possible had political parties coming into power realised that, remaining within their political manifestors, they now represent not only their supporters but all the people alike, that they now have to stop thinking in terms of 'us' and 'they', that they must now learn to treat everyone on an equal footing in the matter of national administration. Unfortunately, this was not to be. They failed to rise above narrow party considerations and to show impartiality and magnanimity. To them, the life and property of some was inviolable; while those of others had no worth, though the blood of all human beings has to be regarded equally sacred and the honour of all homes equally upheld. Blood spilled on ground cannot be divided according to ethnic or party affiliations, nor can smoke from houses set ablaze be marked off on the basis of political loyalties. This universal truth was ignored. As a result, and contrary to original expectations, the gulf of hatreds widened; social harmony was shattered, people's life was infested with violence and their minds filled with fears.

The Province of Sindh, which was once a cradle of peace; from where had entered the Sub-Continent Islam's eternal message of peace, harmony, love and brotherhood; which had welcomed with open arms hundreds of thousands of displaced persons on the creation of Pakistan—that very Sindh was haunted by lawlessness and its tranquil atmosphere was bedevilled by strife. And the democratic Government could do nothing about it.

Murders, kidnappings, dacoities, arson and bloody disturbances became the order of the day. Streets turned into battlefields and not only homes but educational institutions into armouries. I had drawn the attention of the Assembly and the Government to the deteriorating law and order situation in my address to the Joint Session. I had said: "Unfortunately, an atmosphere is today being created in some parts of the country where the citizens' life, property and honour are not safe, where kidnapping for ransom is becoming a profession, where there is the talk of denying people their constitutional right to live and work anywhere, where secessionist and terrorists are challenging the unity, integrity and geographical complexion of the State". That situation further aggravated over the last eight months. The Administration and the guardians of Law proved impotent in the face of political pressures. They could provide neither security nor justice.

According to statistics supplied by the Government's own agencies, during the period of only seven months from January 1 to July 31 this year—after the elected Government had been for one full year in office—1187 persons were killed and 2491 injured in various incidents in Sindh. Of these, 635 were killed and 1433 injured in ethnic troubles. As against this, a total of 599 persons were killed and 1656 wounded in the remaining three Provinces taken together. There, not a single person was killed on ethnic basis, though 14 were injured.

During this very period of seven months, 756 persons were kidnapped and 1062 dacoities committed in the Province of Sindh. For the rest of the country, these figures were 115 and 327 respectively.

Under these circumstances, it was commonly said that the Sindh Government has completely failed and no law but the Law of the Jungle prevailed in the Province. Maintenance of law and order and security of life and property was the Government's first and foremost duty. If the Sindh Government had failed in it, the Federal Government was obliged under the Constitution to protect the Province against internal disturbances and strife. Although the same political party was in power at the Centre and in Sindh, no serious effort was made to ensure that the Provincial Government was carried on in accordance with the Constitution and the Law.

Side by side with these agonizing conditions, innumerable stories were circulating among the people of the misusse of power to accumulate and multiply personal fortunes and dole out favours. Bribe, dishonesty and corruption was the talk of the time. Big scandals were appearing every now and then in the national and international press. It was being openly said that financial irregularities have crossed all limits and corruption has broken all records. The treatment of public exchequer like hereditary jagirs [fiefdoms] and the plunder of national wealth as booty were so widely reported that the word "corruption" became the trademark of policies in Pakistan.

It was also said that, with a view to paving the way for receiving and distributing unlawful concessions from the commercial banks and other financial institutions, such as the Agricultural Development Bank, NDFC [National Development Finance Corporation] and PICIC, [Pakistan Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation] hand-picked persons were appointed in key positions without proper qualifications and experience. Then, loans worth billions of rupees were given to blue-eyed boys for political reasons without the requisite documents, collateral securities and proper processing. Repayable loans of millions of ruppees were also written off or the terms and period of their repayment were unconscienably [as received] relaxed. Consequently, there were speculations of a few banks going insolvent.

Newspapers also raised hue and cry about similar wrongdoings in commercial deals. According to them, millions and millions of rupees were made in commission by selling huge quantities of cotton and rice to firms of doubtful credentials at prices much lower than the world market. Similarly, it was reported that purchases of billions of rupees were made in various sectors, including energy, aviation and communication, on the temptation of personal gains rather than considerations of genuine needs, better quality and lower prices, thus causing heavy loss to the exchequer.

Stories of heavy bribes and political favouritism were also rife in relation to government contracts import/export licences, permits of various types and industrial sanction. Allotment of residential and commercial plots and valuable state lands on nominal rates was also widely reported. So much so that cases like the one of the extorting millions of rupees from a victim by fastening a bomb to his leg were also published. In addition to the press, serious charges of corruption were also levelled from the public forum by political circles, which also claimed to have, and published in quite a few cases, alleged documentary evidence in their support.

In the face of such a blitz of corruption charges, it was incumbent upon a responsible government to order investigations instead of dismissing them as conspiracies to malign the government, political propaganda or mudslinging. It was possible that the allegations would have been proved wrong. But, likewise, the chances of their being correct could also not be ruled out. The basic point is that they should have been probed into by an impartial and independent agency so that the facts could have come before the people, they could have been satisfied and their trust in the elected representatives could have been restored. There were loud demands to this effect but they were ignored. However, when the pressure of public opinion mounted, investigations were assigned to a hand-picked person with no legal authority. He could neither claim acceptance in political circles nor inspire public trust.

Those who complained of corruption were repeatedly advised to go to the court. Apart from the fact that in a democracy, it is the people and not the courts who are approached to vindicate position, the advice was not improper in principle. However, for going to the court, it is necessary to investigate the charges, which is not possible without the cooperation of official agencies. Relevant documents and files are also in official custody and no outsider can have access to them without permission from the government. That being the case, the suggestion of going to the court was absolutely futile in practice.

Then, at least in one instance, the court had upheld the charges of nepotism and abuse of authority. But to what avail? How much was the court's verdict honoured? In democratic countries, even on minor public charges of corruption, either resignations are voluntarily tendered or asked for, without waiting for proofs, so that impartial and conducive conditions for free investigations are ensured. How far was this tradition followed? One only regrets that a tradition of accountability was not created.

It is the duty of the nation to arrange for the accountability of those who betray the people's faith, who barter away the nation's trust, who plunder the country's wealth. Unless the people start catching the rulers by their collars, unless the people's representatives are strictly called to account, clean politics and an honest democratic government according to the Constitution and the Law will remain an illusion.

In this atmosphere of political confrontation, lawlessness, corruption, injustice and denial of rights, no one had the time to attend to the people's real problems. They were left to languish in conditions of poverty, inflation, unemployment and disease. Frustrated hopes and unfulfilled aspirations led to the dwindling of their faith in democracy. And that did not augur well for its future.

On my part, I kept pointing out the shortcomings and deficiencies. Without beating my own drum, I kept trying sincerely and ardently to awaken the government and the elected representatives to their constitutional, national and moral obligations. It had been my endeavour to impress upon them that the seat of power is made of rights and duties, with duties predominating and that authority is not exercised in democracies arbitrarily like in absolute monarchies. Rather, it is used for collective good, according to rules and regulations and as a sacred trust. If the government considers certain existing laws to be a hurdle in the way of its so-called progressive policies, the proper course is not to violate them but to first seek amendments at the appropriate forum so that everyone knows the new rules of the game before hand.

But my efforts bore no fruits. Encouraging promises of improvement were made from time to time, but instead of improvement the situation kept on worsening. Despair, mistrust and a sense of uncertainty sunk deeper and deeper into the people's soul and everyone started talking about the President's constitutional role and responsibilities. From every forum—at the people's level and in formal meetings, through speeches and statements and in newspaper columns—the President was strongly urged to fulfil his constitutional obligations.

I fully appreciated the anxiety and anguish underlying such urgings. I was also aware of the alarming factors leading to the demand of the extreme step. However, I was not willing to take any step in a hurry. My effort was that the system I had myself brought into being should work as far as possible.

You may not have forgotten that when I had to shoulder the responsibilities of government in the wake of the August 17, 1988 tragic accident my effort right from the very first day was to put the country back on the democratic path without any delay. The situation then was highly uncertain and unstable. Even then it was decided to hold the elections as scheduled and all the necessary measures were taken to ensure free, impartial and peaceful polls. These included the first ever decision in our history to hold the elections under the supervision of the Judiciary. After the elections, the process of transfer of power too was completed smoothly and peacefully in contrast to past traditions. Although the People's Party did not have a clear overall majority in the House, it had emerged as the single largest party. Its leader was, therefore the first to be invited to form the Government. This, I thought, was what democracy demanded. And by so doing, I tried to set a healthy democratic tradition although it was possible under the Constitution to transfer power to some one else who could have secured a vote of confidence from the House within sixty days. In the political Juma [Friday] Bazar of those days, it would not have been an impossibility.

My purpose in recapitulating these irretutable facts of our national history is not to indulge in self-praise. It is simply intended to remind you that I too had some contribution to make to the restoration of democracy. Therefore, strong popular pressure notwithstanding, I avoided taking the extreme step and kept giving the people's representatives all the chance in the world and regular counsel to mend their ways. I had expected that after a few slips in the beginning, they would become conscious of the humps and curves in their way and learn gradually to tread carefully, holding each other's hand. I had thought that the outburst of excitement and euphoria over the establishment of democracy after a long and taxing wait would slowly subside and be replaced with moderation and maturity. But what could anyone do if power worked as an intoxicant blurring vision and impairing hearing? The self-styled champions of democracy obstinately continued to strike at the roots of democracy rather than reinforcing them. But the nation could not have indefinitely allowed anybody's naivety or incompetence or nefarious designs to land it in a situation where either democracy is harmed or the very ground in which this sapling has been very lovingly planted. [sentence as published] Ultimately the situation came to such a pass that I was left with no other option but to take the decision to dissolve the National Assembly.

This decision of mine is not against any individual, any group or any party. If anything, it is directed:

—against unconstitutional, unlawful and undemocratic practices;
—against the policies of conflict, confrontation and obstinacy;
—against the tendencies of opportunism, expediency and selfishness;
—against the prevalence of rank corruption, incompetence and inaction;
—against the deepening sense of despair, disillusionment and uncertainty among the masses;
—against the growing apprehensions about the future of democracy; and
—it is directed against antidemocratic ways in the name of democracy and anti-people practices in the name of populism.

I firmly believe in the definition of democracy that it means a government of the people, by the people and for all the people without discrimination. I am sure that you too believe so. And let me tell you, you are not wrong. If, for reasons, things could not be as good as you expected them to be, and you found the democratic experience somewhat disappointing, you must remember that the deficiencies of democracy can best be made up by practising more democracy. You must have faith in the latent vitality and the self-correcting dynamism that characterise a democratic system. Only by giving it a chance to express itself again can we lend stability to democracy. Only by going through the mill of elections again and again can democracy become not only an established form of government but also a way of life, a common pattern of thought and action, an integral part of our blood that no adventurer can rob off and no opportunist can snatch away. And this will be possible only when the people take out the malignant substances that have penetrated the veins of democracy. There is no better way to do so than through fresh polls.

Elections are like the people's courts. Every candidate presents himself before the people with his performance record; and they pass a judgement on him. I have provided to the people an opportunity for their representatives' accountability again. I hope, they will discharge their obligation honestly and responsibly so that democracy attains the maturity and decency we have been looking for.

Undemocratic protest over this constitutional and democratic step will just not be tolerated. If someone acts irresponsibly and, in order to escape public accountability, tries to misguide the people, he shall be strictly dealt with.

As for the future, I am fully determined to keep the caravan of democracy moving on the road laid down by the Constitution and Law. Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has already been sworn in as the Caretaker Prime Minister. He is an experienced person and enjoys good political reputation. Above all, he is a true Pakistani. He thinks only as a Pakistani. He feels for Pakistan and has the will to live and die for it. I hope that under his leadership, the Caretaker Government will discharge its duties efficienty, honestly, impartially and sincerely.

The Caretaker Government will fix its own priorities. I expect that it will pay special attention to the restoration of law and order and to the provision of equal security and justice to all citizens without discrimination. I also expect that it will try to check corruption and root out crime and restore the credibility of institutions responsible for establishing the rule of law. It is obvious that in its limited tenure, the Caretaker government may not be able to accomplish much. I do, however, hope that it initiates a process of setting good traditions of upholding the supremacy of the Constitution and the Law, and creating examples of decency, honesty, justice and fairplay for others to follow.

But these all are incidental things. Top most on the list of the priorities of Caretaker Government and its foremost duty is to arrange for the holding of elections. General elections will be held on the 24th of October this year.

I would also like to categorically declare that, like the previous elections, these elections too shall be fully impartial and completely free and fair. Peaceful conditions will be ensured for their holdings: And no individual, party or group will ever be permitted either to subvert the electoral process or to influence election results through the misuse of authority, threats of violence, intimidation or cheating. The people's verdict shall be fully honoured and election results shall be accepted with an open heart and open mind.

And now I will appeal to the country's intellectuals, the leaders of public opinion and to every man of vision to keep an eye on what has passed and also observe carefully what is happening. May be, on your testimony will depend the verdict of Time—Time on which swears the Almighty to admonish man that its lapse is his loss. That very Time is watching you. You must read its mood and take advantage of the available chance to make good your shortcomings. You should groom your political sense and should learn to differentiate between fantasy and reality, between fraud and genuineness, between right and wrong and between good and bad. On your right thinking and correct decision hangs the future of the country and the nation. May Allah Almighty guide you on the right path. May He save the people of Pakistan from adversities and hard times and bless them with His guidance. Amen.

Secretary-Level Talks With India To Continue

BK0808012090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign secretary-level talks between India and Pakistan begin in New Delhi tomorrow. The talks are aimed at defusing tension between the two countries and creating an atmosphere of peace and understanding. Foreign Secretary Dr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan, will represent the Pakistani delegation at the four-day talks.

The first round was held in Islamabad last month.

Caretaker Minister in Punjab Lists Priorities

BK0708121790 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Ghulam Haider Wyne has been sworn in as caretaker chief minister of the Punjab. The oath was administered by the provincial governor, Mian Mohammad Azhar, in Lahore this afternoon.

Later, talking to newsmen, Mr. Ghulam Haider Wyne said his priority will be to ensure continuation of democratic process, maintenance of law and order, and national integration.

President Appoints New Attorney General

BK0708155990 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The president has appointed Mr. Aziz A. Munshi as Pakistan's attorney general. He will enjoy the status of a federal minister. He has assumed his office from today.

Portfolios of New Cabinet Members Announced

BK0708163190 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Portfolios of new federal ministers have been announced. These are: Sahabzada Yaqub Khan—foreign affairs; Mr. Elahi Bux Soomro—commerce; Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Khar—water and power; Chaudhuri Shujat Hussain—industries; Mr. Rafi Raza—production; and Mr. Sartaj Aziz—finance, economic affairs, and planning and development.

Jatoi Chairs Federal Cabinet Meeting

BK0708143290 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Federal Cabinet met in Islamabad today with the prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, in the chair. It discussed various administrative matters. The meeting was attended by the federal ministers, Mr Elahi Bux Soomro, Malik Mustafa Khar, Mr. Rafi Raza, and Sartaj Aziz.

New Prime Minister Meets With PPP's Khalid

BK0708154990 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, met with National Assembly Speaker Malik Mairaj Khalid in Islamabad today and exchanged views on matters of national interest. Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi commended the speaker's impartial role in connection with keeping aloft the democratic traditions. He said he greatly respects the democratic institutions. The speaker thanked the prime minister for his goodwill gesture. The federal ministers, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa and Mr. Rafi Raza, were also present on the occasion.

Meets Workers, Says No Revenge

BK0808015090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has the process of settling scores will be done with complete honesty and justice and no act of revenge will be directed against anybody. He said this while speaking to his party workers in Islamabad yesterday, who had come to congratulate him on assuming office as prime minister. The prime minister said those found guilty of corruption will be dealt with sternly. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said he will soon meet political leaders to devise a strategy for national elections. He urged the party workers to uphold national interests and to maintain close contacts with people to prepare for the elections.

Bhutto Reportedly Banned From Leaving Country

BK0808055990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0549 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 8 (AFP)—Former Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her husband have been banned from leaving the country, the official PAKISTAN TIMES announced Wednesday.

Ms. Bhutto and her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, were on a list of 3 politicians and businessmen the transitional government has given immigration officials, the newspaper added. Those on the list no longer have the right to travel abroad pending inquiries on charges of corruption, it added.

Bhutto Party Ready for Elections, Warns on Delay

Meets, Issues Statement

BK0708151490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1450 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Aug 7 (AFP)—Ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) rejected accusations of corruption Tuesday and said it was ready to seek a fresh mandate. Senior party leaders said they were angry at President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's decision Monday to dissolve the National Assembly and provincial assemblies and remove the 20-month-old Bhutto government.

They warned Mr. Ishaq Khan and Interim Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi that a delay in polls would be dangerous for the country. At a meeting chaired by Ms. Bhutto here, the party leaders dismissed the president's action as "arbitrary, illegal and unconstitutional." [passage omitted]

At the end of their meeting, PPP leaders issued a strongly worded statement, the party's first since Mr. Ishaq Khan's decision to dismiss the government and impose a state of emergency in the country. "The (president's) action not only subverts the nascent democratic order in Pakistan but also deals a grievous blow to the valiant and brave struggle of the Kashmiri people" waging a war against Indian rule, the statement said.

"The action has strengthened our enemies, whose forces are poised on borders, by demoralising the nation," the statement said, referring to the alleged buildup of Indian troops along Pakistan's borders. The statement said the PPP would press just one demand. "Hold fair and free elections, on schedule, and let the people decide," the party release said.

The party leaders said there was "hardly any difference" between Mr. Ishaq khan's statement and late military ruler General Mohammed Ziaul Haq's comments when he sacked Mohammed Khan Junejo's government on May 29, 1988. "These are old and hackneyed charges which have only one object—to undermine the will of the people," the statement said. It said the PPP was not afraid to face these charges.

"It (the party) is confident that if the elections are held as promised and on schedule, it shall be vindicated in the court of the people," the statement said. But Ms. Bhutto has appealed for calm as the PPP does not want "to give the ruling coterie any excuse to postpone the elections," the statement said.

Meanwhile, in Karachi, stunned supporters of Ms. Bhutto criticised the dissolution of the assemblies and said it was a "conspiracy against democracy." "We are watching the situation and will act according to instructions from Benazir Bhutto," one PPP worker said in the southern port city.

The mood in Karachi, a PPP stronghold, was resentful and many youths chanted anti-administration slogans to expres their anger and disgust. Meanwhile troops and other security forces have stepped up their vigilance and the army has strengthened its force at the airport. According to press reports here, security agencies have also stepped up their surveillance of Ms. Bhutto's husband Asif Ali Zardari and other PPP leaders.

The reports said Mr. Jatoi's caretaker government has ordered a ban on foreign travel by Ms. Bhutto and her husband, as well as top PPP federal ministers. Meanwhile, Ms. Bhutto's foreign minister Sahabzada Yakub Khan was retained by Mr. Jatoi in his cabinet, which is to run the country until snap polls ordered by the president for October 24.

Bhutto Leaves Islamabad for Karachi

BK0708172690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The newly-appointed caretaker prime minister of Pakistan, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, held his first meeting with the six-member cabinet in Islamabad today. The members included Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who was sworn in this afternoon.

Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that the city presents a calm look and life is going on normal. Army troops who took over several important government buildings yesterday have withdrawn.

Our correspondent understands that Ms. Benazir Bhutto left for Karachi this afternoon by a special Air Force plane, thereby denying the report that she had been placed under house arrest. She spent most part of the day in Islamabad in meeting her party leaders. A meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] is expected to be held in Karachi tomorrow to consider the future course of action. The party is reported to have decided to challenge in the Pakistan Supreme Court yesterday's presidential order dissolving the National Assembly. Our correspondent further understands that there is every intention on the part of the new government in Islamabad of going ahead with the foreign secretary-level talks between India and Pakistan scheduled for this week in New Delhi.

Zia's Son Calls for Bhutto Corruption Probe

BK0708122890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1153 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By Shah Alam]

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 7 (AFP)—Pakistan's late military ruler Mohammed Ziaul Haq seems to have risen from the grave to gloat over the dismissal of Pakistan's first woman prime minister, Benazir Bhutto. Large portraits of a smiling Gen. Zia, whose display was banned by federal police until Monday, hung from poles in this capital city Tuesday and groups of people were seen visiting his grave.

Right-wing admirers of the former president rushed to string up the pictures soon after Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Gen. Zia's one-time close aide and now head of state, sacked Ms. Bhutto's government late Monday. Ms. Bhutto led a long struggle for democracy during the 11-year rule of Gen. Zia, who died in a plane crash in August, 1988, clearing the way for her victory in general elections. As army chief and president, Gen. Zia meted out harsh treatment on Ms. Bhutto, the daughter of executed former Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Gen. Zia's treatment of the Bhutto family was seen here as a bid to eliminate Ms. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) from the political scene. His strong Islamization programme won him wide support among the Moslem clergy and other religious groups, but he never managed to wipe out Ms. Bhutto's forceful campaign against dictatorship.

A split result in November, 1988, elections brought Zia ally and Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI) leader Nawaz Sharif to power in Punjab, Pakistan's most populous province, triggering a lengthy struggle with Ms. Bhutto. The Punjab chief minister also supported Gen. Zia's eldest son, Ejazul Haq, in his campaign to blame Ms. Bhutto and her supporters for his father's death.

On the first anniversary of Gen. Zia's death, hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis massed at his grave here, in a show of force that Mr. Nawaz Sharif called a massive vote of no confidence in Ms. Bhutto's government. Ms. Bhutto's removal from office came just ten days before the second death anniversay of Gen. Zia, whose memory has continued to haunt her government.

The sudden change of government has infused more vigour and enthusiasm into preparations for the anniversary that were already underway, despite a ban on public gatherings imposed in the capital last week. When groups of Ms. Bhutto's opponents took to the streets Monday in nearby Rawalpindi, rejoicing over Bhutto's removal, they carried portraits of Gen. Zia and shouted "mard-e-momin, mard-e-haq" (Man of faith and truth).

"Islamabad will witness (its) biggest ever rally to commemorate the death," according to one member of the Zia Foundation, a politically based welfare group founded by sons of Gen. Zia and another top general killed with him.

In a statement Tuesday, Mr. Ejazul Haq called on the current caretaker government to set up tribunals to probe into "large-scale corruption" under Ms. Bhutto's government. Sources close to Mr. Ejazul haq, who is also a member of the Muslim League headed by former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, said his political outlook was "a lot more promising" since Ms. Bhutto's dismissal. A rally planned here for August 17 will mark a significant boost to his political career, they said.

For her part, Ms. Bhutto said she doubts that elections pledged by Mr. Ishaq Khan within 80 days will take place. Referring to Mr. Ishaq Khan's comments on the accountability of politicians, she said Monday that Gen. Zia and others before him said the same things while clinging to power.

Army chief, General Mirza Aslam Beg, was quoted Tuesday as saying the armed forces would stay out of politics. "I have no political ambitions," Gen. Beg said, adding that he would "never engage in politics."

Paper Comments On Dismissal of Bhutto Government

BK0708121690 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 7 Aug 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Back to the beginning']

[Text] Democracy in Pakistan seems under a curse like Sisyphus. The nation is condemned, when allowed the rare opportunity, to labour with the rock only shortly to be rolled back to the foot of the hill to begin all anew whenever the chance is next granted. [sentence as published]

The President's litany of charges against the government and the Parliament he ousted yesterday sounds tiresomely like the compendium of sins read out on each such occasion in the past down to Gen Zia's action of May 1988, and each of which exercise was subsequently discredited under impartial scrutiny or in the cold judgement of history. It is hard to see how any future election, any set of future rulers, can change the circumstances of governance. Democracy's early course is bound almost by definition to be noisome bumpy, muddled and messy. If there is lack of patience to abide by it, if there is pulling and pushing and shoving from all sides, and if there is also a vested interest against its succeeding, then it is doomed always to be cut short even before it properly gets under way.

There is no question that the PPP government made mistakes but it will be less than honest to deny that it was put under extraordinary pressures from almost all sides, that it not only did not get from the opposition and other elements the minimal cooperation and understanding it had a right to expect in the circumstances in which it came into power, it came into power, it was sought concertedly to be defeated in its tasks. The present drastic action, leaked out abundantly in advance in contrast to previous such actions comes as a coping stone to the recent past. The appointments already made make no pretence to impartiality between the opposing political elements in the country. It is obvious, incidentally, that if Mr Jatoi's no-confidence move had a chance of succeeding he woudn't have had to be pitchforked into the prime ministerial position through an extreme measure.

One will however hope that the change will not affect the guarantees of freedom, including freedoms of speech and the Press. One will also hope that the unfortunate action will somehow end up serving the interest of the nation. Hope has after all, to survive.

Further Reportage on Australian Minister Visit

Discusses Cooperation, Aircraft

BK0408114790 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans has said that the Kashmir issue is a cause of tension between Pakistan and India. He has expressed the hope that this problem would be resolved through negotiations, which will ease tension between the two countries. Talking to newsmen in Islamabad yesterday evening, he said that the Kashmir issue will figure prominently during his discussions with Pakistani leaders.

The Australian foreign minister disclosed that Pakistan and Australia have identified seven specific areas of bilateral cooperation, which include agriculture and coal mining, and that Australia is a major supplier of coal and other materials to Pakistan. Gareth Evans said he will exchange views with Pakistani leaders in Islamabad on bilateral matters and some important issues relating to regional security.

Answering a question, the Australian foreign minister said his country will fulfill its commitment to supply 50 Mirage aircraft to Pakistan.

Meets With President Khan

BK0408114990 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans, now on a visit to Pakistan, called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad today. They discussed matters concerning bilateral cooperation in various fields, including trade and technical assistance. They also exchanged views on a number of regional and international issues. The president apprised the Australian foreign minister of Pakistan's stand on the Kashmir and Afghan problems.

Shows 'Understanding' on Kashmir

BK0408163590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] The visiting Australian foreign minister, Gareth Evans, held talks with Pakistani officials in Islamabad today. Their talks covered a wide range of bilateral and international issues. Foreign Secretary Tanvir Ahmad Khan briefed the Australian minister on Pakistan's relations with India, the situation in occupied Kashmir, and the recently concluded secretary-level talks between the two countries.

The Australian foreign minister showed an understanding of Pakistan's stand on Kashmir and gave assurances that Australia will use its influence to encourage dialogue between India and Pakistan and to help end current tension between them.

Discusses Kashmir, Trade

BK0608035390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Gareth Evans, the Australian foreign minister, has expressed his country's serious concern over the violation of human rights in occupied Kashmir. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad last night, he emphasized the need for resolving the Kashmir problem through negotiations between India and Pakistan. He said he had detailed discussions with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, and other Pakistani officials on the Kashmir issue. He also exchanged views with them on the Afghanistan problem and other matters concerning bilateral relations.

Gareth Evans, who also holds the trade portfolio, said that the volume of trade between Pakistan and Australia has increased by 60 percent since 1988. The two countries agreed to increase it further. Australia has entered into a contract with Pakistan to establish a modern telecommunication link between islamabad and Karachi. Answering a question, he said the supply of Mirage aircraft to Pakistan is expected to begin early next year. [Delhi Domestic Service in English at 0240 GMT on 6 Aug 90 adds: "Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that Mr. Evans categorically stated that while Australia is going ahead with the sale of 50 Mirage fighter planes to Pakistan it will review the contract should it in any way contribute to military confrontation or heightening of tension in the region."]

The Australian foreign minister said the Pakistani prime minister is expected to visit Australia early next year. Earlier, Evans called on Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and discussed matters of bilateral interest. The prime minister expressed satisfaction over the growing relations between Pakistan and Australia. She recalled the visit of the Australian prime minister to Pakistan and said bilateral relations have been gaining momentum after his visit.

Unsure on Aid Request

BK0608070190 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Australia's commitment to two international financial institutions this year may prevent it from maintaining some current overseas aid programs. Speaking at a news conference in Islamabad, the foreign minister, Senator Evans, said commitments to the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank were expected to increase by about Australian $100 million this year. He said he had explained to the government leaders in Pakistan that unless he could get an extra $100 million to his budget this year, it would be necessary to trim what he termed a lot of other programs in order to meet that commitment.

Pakistan has asked for more food aid from Australia following a poor wheat harvest and continuing demands by Afghan refugees in the country. Senator Evans said while he would love to meet the request, he had explained to the Pakistan Government the realities that it might not be possible. The aid allocation would be announced in Australia's federal budget due to be delivered this month.

On the final day of his visit to Pakistan, Senator Evans visited an Afghan refugee camp near Peshawar and drove through the Khyber Pass to observe the border crossing between Pakistan and Afghanistan [words indistinct]. He later held talks with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto on Kashmir and a range of bilateral issues.

Senator Evans says it is hoped Prime Minister Bhutto will be able to visit Australia early next year.

Commentary Hails ICO Resolution on Kashmir

BK0608110990 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Umar Latif Commentary]

[Text] The foreign ministers of Islamic countries in their meeting yesterday at Cairo gave a categorical and unanimous call to resolve the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the decision of the United Nations Security Council. The United Nations had long ago directed the Indian occupying forces to hold a plebiscite and settle the Kashmir issue in accordance with the wishes of the people. There cannot be any more practical solution to this perpetuating problem. Pakistan harbors no animosity whatsoever with its big neighbor, India. But it is morally and legally bound to support the people of Kashmir in their just demand against armed accession and perpetuating control by India. Kashmir has remained as an unresolved issue only due to the intransigence of India. With solution of it, the two countries could live in peace and urgent issues of socioeconomic well-being of their teeming millions could be settled. It is in the interest of India and Pakistan both to settle the Kashmir dispute peacefully.

Pakistan has expressed total satisfaction over the unanimous resolution passed by the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] foreign ministers regarding Kashmir. It has only vindicated the historic stand of Pakistan. It has also demolished the Indian propaganda that many member-states of the ICO were not willing to discuss the Kashmir issue. Not that Kashmir was at length discussed at the Cairo conference, but the ICO foreign ministers have offered their willingness to sponsor a mission to assist in arriving at a peaceful solution of Kashmir. Pakistan welcomes the initiative to be taken by the ICO states in finding a peaceful solution to the burning Kashmir issue. Pakistan has always advocated for it. It is India that has been denying others to help in sorting out the issue. Such a refusal and obduracy would not serve purpose, which India must know. World environment has changed. Truth is bound to prevail and wrong would stand defeated. India on the contrary is pursuing the path of [words indistinct] and is punishing the innocent people of Kashmir. Brutal force is being used to silence the voice of freedom. Flames of freedom burn in hearts of people and cannot be extinguished by use of brute force or brutality.

The resolution unanimously adopted by the ICO foreign ministers is complete in content and comprehensive in character. It strongly supports solution to be based on the UN Security Council's [word indistinct] resolutions upholding plebiscite. The resolution strongly advocates for ending the atrocities being let loose on the people of Kashmir. It demands withdrawal of forces to the peacetime locations. It has expressed deep concern at the prevailing tension in the subcontinent and the region. The resolution has rightly observed and frankly expressed deep concern of the ICO foreign ministers at the flagrant violation of all human rights and has deplored violence being waged by the Indian forces against the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and it has called for respect to the human rights.

The ICO Cairo conference has called for pursuit in peaceful manner to resolve the Kashmir issue. This is the policy Pakistan has been pursuing at all levels. To prevent it from becoming a hostile practice, Pakistan kept quiet even at the killing of its soldiers and civilians by the Indian forces. The fact has been recently revealed by the British parliamentary delegation which visited Pakistan and Azad Kashmir. How long Pakistan should remain silent over such brutalities and bear it? Hundreds of innocent people have been killed by the Indian occupying forces in Jammu and Kashmir. Thousands were being deprived of their homes and hearths, millions were being victimized. This all negates human rights. To this, the world should not remain a silent witness. The ICO conference has taken its notice seriously. Pakistan is obliged for the categorical stand taken by the ICO member-states. Pakistan offers its total cooperation to the ICO mission in its efforts to resolve the Kashmir issue in a peaceful and judicious manner.

Sri Lanka

Muslims Reportedly Kill 47 Tamils in Amparai

BK0808040090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 47 Tamil civilians were killed by Muslim extremists at (Sadasenai) in Amparai District yesterday, in retaliation to the Muslim killings in the past four days in the Eastern Province by suspected LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants.

The Sri Lankan Muslim Congress leader, Mr. Ashraf, told our Colombo correspondent, Karuppuswamy, that the Congress and other parties of similar democratic attitude have condemned civilian killings in the island nation.

Meanwhile, the LTTE has reiterated that it was not involved in the recent killings of Muslims in the east. In a statement issued in London and released in Colombo yesterday, the People's Front of Liberation Tigers, a political wing of the LTTE has alleged that the killings were designed and planned by the Sri Lankan Government to get assistance from the Arab world.

Meanwhile, the former prime minister and opposition leader, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, has demanded in Parliament yesterday that Mr. Wijeratne should place facts regarding his visit to West Asian countries.